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Let's

ISSUE 74 DEC 2013

Knit

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Welcome... to Let's Knit

Meet the Team...



Deputy Editor,
Adrienne Chandler

adrienne.chandler@aceville.co.uk

This month...

"I've been hunting for those Essential Winter Knits for our FREE book, including a selection of fabulously festive Scandi-style makes!"

Adrienne's favourite project: Camellia (p17)



Editorial Assistant,
Amy Adams

amy.adams@aceville.co.uk

This month...

"We had so much fun at our Christmas jumper photoshoot! I've also been collecting sparkly yarns for our Festive Fibres page, so I'm feeling especially glittery. (p.30)"

Amy's favourite project: Elska (p33)



Editorial Assistant,
Abbi Henderson

abbi.henderson@aceville.co.uk

This month...

"Christmas is my favourite time of year, so I have been in my element putting together a festive hamper prize for one of our lovely readers to win! (p81)"

Abbi's favourite project: Bernard (p12)



Editor, Sarah Neal

No prizes for guessing what's been preoccupying us this month! We simply can't get enough of **Christmas knitting**, and of Christmas jumpers in particular. Along with such celebrities as Lorraine Kelly and Julie Walters we're supporting Save the Children's **Christmas Jumper Day** on 13th December – you can read more about it and see the miniature jumpers we've knitted on page 7.

This issue comes with a **bonus book** of 16 **essential winter patterns**, including several Scandinavian style designs which are fabulously on-trend. You can get cracking on a Scandi-style project right away with your FREE

yarn kit and a choice of **two quirky patterns** from the book, a baby hat and some cute booties. Don't forget to get in touch and show us your finished makes.

As well as a great range of **last-minute gifts**, such as Charlotte Walford's elegant striped mittens (p57) and Val Pierce's Santa slipper socks (p45) we've also got plenty of **festive glamour** for you. There's Charmine Fletcher's set of elegant bags (p69), Veronica Shaw's unique knitted necklace (p63) and our stunning cover project, Pat Menchini's reverse cardigan with its sultry button-up back and glitzy finish (p9). Not only is it **gorgeous**, but it can be made for only £12.50 – a snip!

Happy (Xmas!) knitting!

Sarah

sarah.neal@aceville.co.uk



The team simply can't wait for Christmas Jumper Day on the 13th December!



Amy and Abbi add the finishing touch to the LK tree



Use our FREE kit to knit this fab scandi-style baby hat – find the pattern in our Essential Winter Knits booklet

Let's Knit
Loves

Luzia
yarn, p65



Visit www.letsknit.co.uk
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Need to get in touch?

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Who cares? ...We do!

At **Let's Knit** we understand that nothing is more annoying than errors in knitting patterns. As part of our total commitment to ensuring that your experience of our magazine is as enjoyable as possible, we're proud to offer

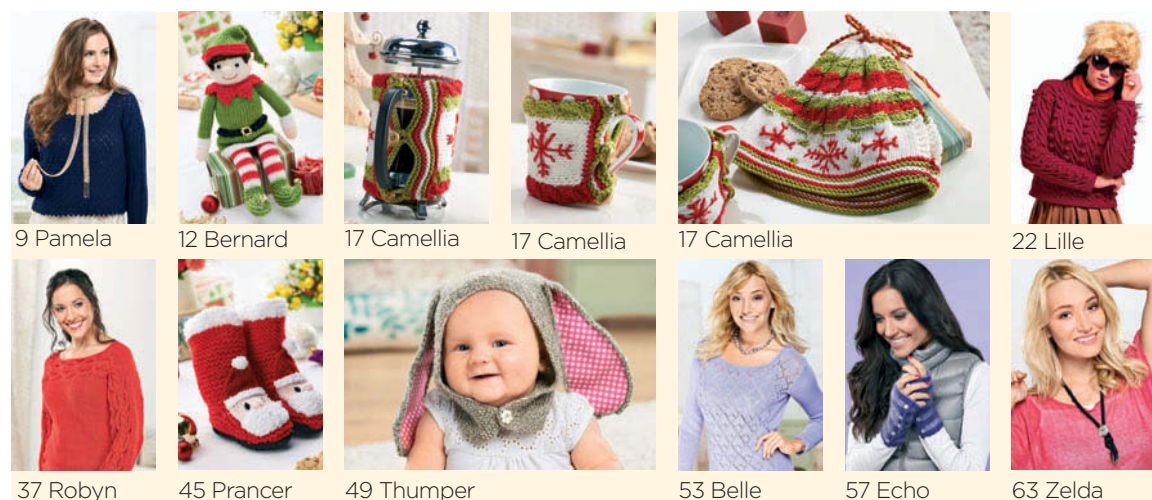
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By post: at the address on page 3 (please mark your envelope 'Support')
(Please note we cannot offer assistance with patterns not published in Let's Knit)

This month's fabulous



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This issue's free gift:

Scandi-style yarn kit and 20-page Essential Winter Knits book



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**PATTERN BOOK COMING
NOVEMBER 2013**

Look what's under the Let's Knit tree! Glorious sweaters for Christmas Jumper Day from www.cheesyChristmasjumpers.com. Tree decorations from www.marksandspencers.com



this month we LOVE!

Tis' the season to eat, give and knit – we'll be doing all three!

LORRAINE KELLY gets festive for Christmas Jumper Day

Save the Children's 'make the world

better with a sweater' campaign encourages people to wear a Christmas jumper on Friday 13th December and donate £1 to help improve the lives of our world's vulnerable children. Now in its second year the campaign has many celebrity supporters, including Julie Walters, Alex Jones, and Lorraine Kelly. There are many ways to get involved: dig out a retro favourite, tinsel up an ordinary sweater, or buy

one – John Lewis is donating £25 for every Christmas jumper sold. You can even knit your own full-sized snowman jumper, courtesy of Sue Stratford, or Debbie Bliss's mini versions for the tree. To download the free patterns and find out more call **0207 012 6400**, or visit www.christmasjumperday.org



This month we're KNITTING...

The LK team have been working on their miniature Christmas jumpers ready for **Christmas Jumper Day!** Sarah Neal, Editor said: "I really enjoyed raiding my stash for suitable festive yarns and knitting up this mini sweater!"



This month's TOP BUY

Dear Santa, we've been awfully well-behaved this year – please, oh please may we have a Limited Edition 'Box of Joy' from KnitPro? It includes interchangeable Karbonz knitting needles, plus cords and accessories in a pretty presentation box! We

promise not to neglect all of our other needles! £92.99,

0117 300 5211,
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DATES for your DIARY

WHEN	WHAT	WHERE	CONTACT
1st Dec	'For the Tree' workshop	Sitting Knitting, Sutton Coldfield	0121 308 4205, rachel@sittingknitting.com
Until 1st	'A Victorian Festival of Christmas'	Portsmouth Historic Dockyard	www.christmasfestival.co.uk
5th-8th	Lincoln Christmas Market	Lincoln City Centre	Lincoln-christmasmarket.co.uk
13th	Christmas Jumper Day	Nationally	www.christmasjumperday.org
17th	Carol Singing with Santa	National Wool Museum	02920 573070, www.museumwales.ac.uk
Until 22nd	Frankfurt Christmas Market	Birmingham	0121 303 3008, www.birmingham.gov.uk/frankfurtmarket
Until 5th Jan	Winter Wonderland	Hyde Park, London	www.hydeparkwinterwonderland.com

WIN
SEE PAGE
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James C. Brett

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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE GARMENT PATTERN

Pamela

is a twinkly *back-to-front cardigan* in a great value yarn

Glitz and glamour are two crucial elements of Christmas, and Pamela combines both for a truly enchanting knit. Pat Menchini has worked her magic to create a beautifully structured, quirky cardigan fit for a festive princess to wear on the best day of the year. Having the buttons on the back gives the impression of a pretty pull-over but with a decorative touch, and the scalloped edging adds a hint of class and elegance.

START KNITTING ON P10

knitwise

PICOT EDGE CAST OFF:

Picot edging is the scalloped cast-off seen on the neckline and bottom hem of the cardigan. It might look a little challenging, but it's actually quite simple. The principle is essentially to cast on a small number of stitches (in this case two) and then cast off a larger number (in this case four) to create a bobbly edge. Follow the instructions given in the pattern and you won't go wrong!

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Dress size (approx):

8 (10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20)

To fit bust (cm):

81 (86, 91, 97, 102, 107, 112)

Actual bust (cm):

98 (103, 108, 114, 119, 124, 129)

Approx length from shoulder (cm):

47 (47, 48, 48, 48.5, 49, 49)

Sleeve length (cm):

43 (43, 43, 43, 43, 43, 43)

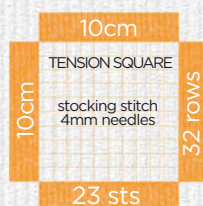
KNIT KIT

Yarn: James C Brett Twinkle DK, shade TK11 Midnight, 4 (4, 4, 4, 5, 5) 100g balls

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

Stitch holder

Buttons: six



ABOUT THE YARN

James C Brett Twinkle DK is a sparkly mix of 97% acrylic and 3% polyester. It is machine washable (so there's no need to fret about that gravy splash), and is available in 15 opulent shades.

Need an alternative yarn?

King Cole Glitz DK is a combination of acrylic and polyester. It comes in eight varied shades, choose Royal for a very similar colour match.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



James C Brett Twinkle DK costs £2.50 per 100g (300m) ball from 0121 240 4172, www.jm-crafts.co.uk



King Cole Glitz DK costs £3.15 per 100g (290m) ball from 0845 003 0775, www.wool4less.co.uk

START KNITTING HERE

Front

Using 4mm needles and the two needle method, cast on 113 (119, 125, 131, 137, 143, 149) sts. Change to 3.25mm needles

□ P two rows **

Change to 4mm needles, cont in lace patt as folls:

□ Row 1 (RS): k2, p1, [k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1, p1] to last two sts, k2

□ Row 2 and every alt row: p

□ Row 3: k1, [k1, p1, k1, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd] to last four sts, k1, p1, k2

□ Row 5: rep Row 1

□ Row 7: k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, [k1, p1, k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso] to last st, k1

□ Row 9: k1, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1, p1, k1] to last four sts, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1

□ Row 11: rep Row 7

□ Row 12: p

These 12 rows form patt

□ Cont in patt until work meas 36cm from beg, ending after a WS row

SHAPE NECK

□ Next row: patt 40 (42, 45, 47, 50, 52, 55) sts, turn

Cont on this set of sts for first half of neck

□ Dec one st at neck edge on next five rows. 35 (37, 40, 42, 45, 47, 50) sts

□ Work 22 (22, 26, 26, 28, 30,

30) rows without shaping, ending at side edge

SHAPE SHOULDER

□ Loosely cast off 9 (9, 10, 10, 11, 12, 13) sts at beg of next row and two foll alt rows

□ Work one row

□ Cast off rem sts

□ With RS facing, sl next 33 (35, 35, 37, 37, 39, 39) sts on a st holder

□ Rejoin yarn to rem sts and patt to end of row

□ Work as first half working one row more before shaping shoulder

Left back

□ Beg with 54 (57, 60, 63, 66, 69, 72) sts work as Front to ** Change to 4mm needles and lace patt for correct size (see below) ***

FIRST, THIRD, FIFTH, AND SEVENTH SIZES ONLY

□ Row 1 (RS): k3, p1, k1, [k1, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1, p1, k1] to last st, k1

□ Row 2 and every alt row: p

□ Row 3: k3, p1, k1, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1, p1, k1] to last st, k1

□ Row 5: rep Row 1

□ Row 7: k3, [yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1, p1, k2] to last three sts, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1

□ Row 9: k2, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog,

pssso, yfwd, k1, p1, k1] to last four sts, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1

□ Row 11: rep Row 7

□ Row 12: p

SECOND, FOURTH, AND SIXTH SIZES ONLY

□ Row 1: k3, [yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1, p1, k2] to end

□ Row 2 and every alt row: p

□ Row 3: k2, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1, p1, k1] to last st, k1

□ Row 5: rep Row 1

□ Row 7: k3, [p1, k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1] to end

□ Row 9: k3, [p1, k1, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1] to end

□ Row 11: rep Row 7

□ Row 12: p

ALL SIZES

□ Cont in patt as on last 12 rows until work meas 36cm from beg, ending after a WS row

SHAPE NECK

□ Next row: cast off 14 (15, 15, 16, 16, 17, 17) sts, work to end

□ Dec one st at neck edge on next five rows. 35 (37, 40, 42, 45, 47, 50) sts

□ Work 23 (23, 27, 27, 29, 31, 31) rows without shaping, ending at side edge

SHAPE SHOULDER

□ Work as for Front

Right back

□ Work as Left back to ***

FIRST, THIRD, FIFTH, AND SEVENTH SIZES ONLY

□ Row 1: k2, p1, [k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, k1, p1] to last three sts, k3

□ Row 2 and every alt row: p

□ Row 3: k1, [k1, p1, k1, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd] to last five sts, k1, p1, k3

□ Row 5: rep Row 1

□ Row 7: k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso, [k1, p1, k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso] to last two sts, k2

□ Row 9: k1, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k1, p1, k1] to last five sts, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, yfwd, k2

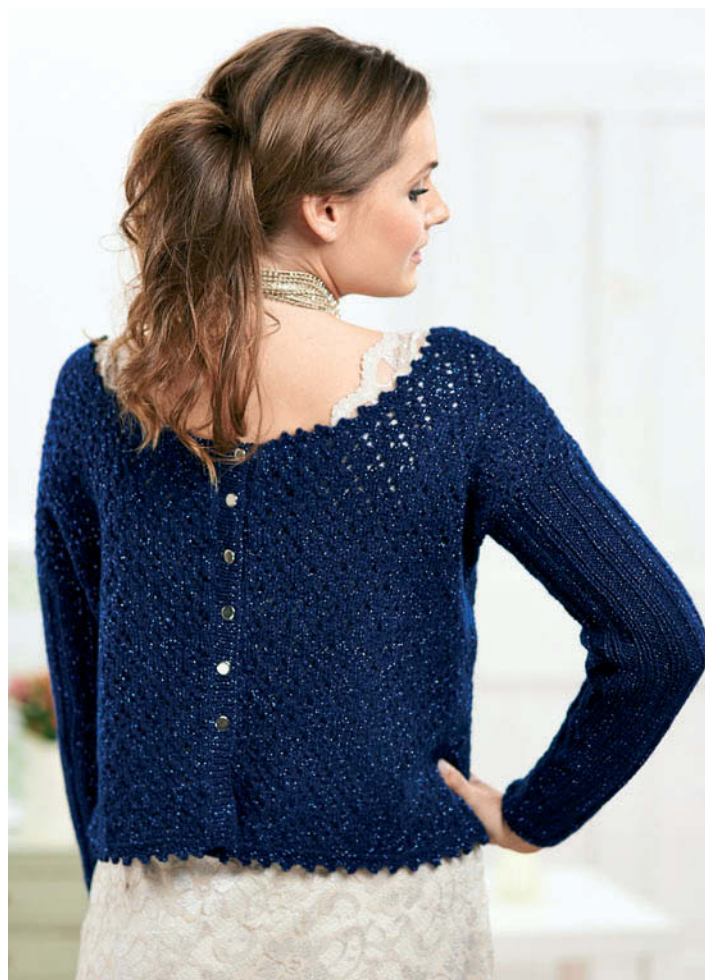
□ Row 11: rep Row 7

□ Row 12: p

SECOND, FOURTH, AND SIXTH SIZES ONLY

□ Row 1: k1, [k1, p1, k2, yfwd, sl 1, k1, pssso] to last two sts, k2

□ Row 2 and every alt row: p



- ❑ Row 3: k1, [k1, p1, k1, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd] to last two sts, k2
- ❑ Row 5: rep Row 1
- ❑ Row 7: k2, [yfwd, sl 1, k1, psso, k1, p1, k2] to last st, k1
- ❑ Row 9: k1, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k1, p1, k1] to last two sts, k2
- ❑ Row 11: rep Row 7
- ❑ Row 12: p

ALL SIZES

- ❑ Cont in patt as on last 12 rows until work meas 36cm from beg, ending after a RS row
- ❑ Shape neck and complete as Left back

Sleeves

- Using 3.25mm needles cast on 47 (47, 49, 49, 51, 51, 51) sts
- ❑ Row 1 (RS): p1 (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3), [k1, p1] to last 2 (2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4) sts, k1, p to end
 - ❑ Row 2: k1 (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3), [p1, k1] to last 2 (2, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4) sts, p1, k to end
 - ❑ Row 3-4: rep Rows 1-2
- Change to 4mm needles and main patt as folls:
- ❑ Row 1 (RS): p1 (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3), [k1, p1, k1, p3] to last 4 (4, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6) sts, k1, p1, k1, p to end
 - ❑ Row 2: k1 (1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3), [p1, k1, p1, k3] to last 4 (4, 5, 5, 6, 6, 6) sts, p1, k1, p1, k to end
- These two rows set patt
- ❑ Cont in patt shaping Sleeve by inc one st at each end of next row, then on every foll 10th (8th, 6th, 6th, 4th, 4th, 4th) row until there are 57 (57, 59, 83, 59, 71, 83) sts, then on every foll 10th (8th, 8th, 8th, 6th, 6th, 6th) row until there are 71 (77, 81, 87, 91, 97, 101) sts, taking extra sts into patt
 - ❑ Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 43cm at centre
 - ❑ Cast off loosely

NECKBAND

- Join shoulders
- ❑ Using 3.25mm needles, and with RS facing, pick up and k 37 (38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 43) sts evenly round left half of Back neck, 23 (23, 24, 24, 25, 26, 26) sts evenly down left Front

- neck, work across sts on holder dec six sts evenly, pick up and k 23 (23, 24, 24, 25, 26, 26) sts evenly up right Front neck, k37 (38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 43) sts evenly round right half of Back neck. 147 (151, 155, 159, 163, 171, 171) sts
- ❑ K one row
 - ❑ Cast off three sts, * sl st on RH needle back on to LH needle and cast on two sts, cast off four sts firmly, k2tog, sl second st on right needle over first st, rep from * until no sts rem

PICOT EDGINGS

- ❑ Using 4mm needles, RS facing, pick up and k one st from every loop at cast-on edge of Front
- ❑ Cast off to form picot as neckband
- ❑ Rep picot edging along lower edge of two halves of Back

BUTTONHOLE BORDER

- NOTE:** when picking up sts from side edge of knitting, insert needle between first and second st
- ❑ Using 3.25mm needles, RS facing, pick up and k 111 sts evenly along left edge of Back
 - ❑ Rows 1-2: work Rows 1-2 as given for first size of Sleeves
 - These two rows set rib
 - ❑ Next row (buttonhole row): rib 3, * cast off two sts, rib 12 including st on RH needle after cast-off, rep from * four times more, cast off two sts, rib to end
 - ❑ Next row: in rib cast on two sts in each place where sts were cast off
 - ❑ Rib two more rows
 - ❑ Cast off firmly kwise

BUTTON BORDER

- ❑ Work to correspond with buttonhole border omitting buttonholes

To make up

Stitch cast-off edge of sleeves to corresponding sections of yoke. Join side and sleeve seams, sew on buttons **LK**



Scarf £15 Marks & Spencer,
Dress £20 T.K.Maxx

"If you like to go all out on your Christmas knits, find some statement buttons to really jazz up Pamela. Think glitter, gems, and if they are mismatched – even better!"



LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER

*coming
next issue*

**FAIR ISLE VEST FROM
BERGERE DE FRANCE**

On sale 20th December



MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Height: 30cm standing

KNIT KIT

Yarn: King Cole Pricewise DK, (A) shade 272 Grass, (B) shade 9 Red, one 100g ball of each; King Cole Dollymix DK, (C) shade 149 Flesh, (D) shade 1 White, (E) shade 48 Black, (F) shade 55 Gold, (G) shade 273 Chocolate, one 25g ball of each.

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

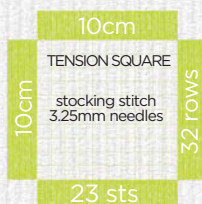
Tapestry needle

Washable toy stuffing

Toy safety eyes: black, 6mm, two

Pink embroidery thread

Bells: gold, small, three



ABOUT THE YARN

King Cole Pricewise DK comes in a huge range of colours, and is ideal for knitting for children. This acrylic yarn is soft to the touch, and machine washable.

King Cole Dollymix is a machine washable, 100% acrylic yarn. It is available in a range of bright and pastel shades.

Need an alternative yarn?

Patons FAB DK is cost effective, and great for knitting teddies and dolls. The colour range is extensive, and to top it off – it's machine washable and tumble dry friendly. Best of all, it's available in 100g and 25g balls!

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



King Cole Pricewise DK costs £1.85 per 100g (290m) ball and **King Cole Dollymix** costs 75p per 25g (73m) ball from 0115 947 4239 www.knitnottingham.co.uk

Patons FAB DK costs 69p per 25g (68m) ball and £2.59 per 100g (274m) ball from www.purplelinda.crafts.co.uk



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE TOY PATTERN

Bernard is a jolly Christmas elf by Zoë Halstead

Christmas elves have always been symbolic of festive cheer, and Bernard is the epitome of joy and happiness. Whether you are six, or 66 – you can't help but fall head-over-heels for this little chap. Bernard might look like a rather detailed knit, but he is in fact quite straightforward, being predominantly knitted in stocking stitch. If you'd like tips on how to knit a toy, turn to page 41 for some helpful advice.

START KNITTING HERE

Body and head

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 46 sts

□ Beg with a k row, work in st st until piece meas 9.5cm, ending after a p row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

□ Row 1: k11, skpo, k20, k2tog, k11. 44 sts
□ Row 2: p
□ Row 3: k10, skpo, k20, k2tog, k10. 42 sts
□ Row 4: p
□ Row 5: k10, skpo, k18, k2tog, k10. 40 sts
□ Row 6: p
□ Row 7: k1, k2tog to last st, k1. 21 sts
□ Row 8: p
Change to yarn C
□ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

SHAPE HEAD

□ Row 11: k1, * m1, k1, rep from * to end. 41 sts
□ Beg with a p row, work 21 rows in st st

SHAPE TOP OF HEAD

□ Row 33: * k2, k2tog, rep from * to last st, k1. 31 sts
□ Row 34: p
□ Row 35: k1, * k2tog, rep from * to end. 16 sts
□ Row 36: (p2tog) to end. Eight sts
□ Cut yarn, leaving a long tail for making up, thread through rem sts, pull up tightly and fasten off

Nose

Using 3.25mm needles and

yarn C, cast on two sts

□ Row 1: k
□ Beg with a p row, work two rows in st st inc one st at each end of every row. Six sts
□ Beg with a p row, work two rows in st st
□ Cont in st st dec one st at each end of next two rows. Two sts
□ Next row: p2tog. One st
Cut yarn, leaving a long tail for making up, thread through rem st, pull up tightly and fasten off

Ears (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C, cast on three sts
□ K two rows
□ Next row: (k1, m1) twice, k1. Five sts
□ K three rows
□ Next row: skpo, k to end. Four sts
□ Next row: k
□ Rep last two rows twice more. Two sts
□ Next row: k2tog. One st
Cut yarn, thread through rem st, pull up tightly and fasten off

Arms (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on four sts
□ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st
□ Next row: k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1. Six sts
□ Next row: p
□ Rep the last two rows until there are 14 sts
□ Starting with a p row, work 21 rows in st st
Change to yarn D

□ K eight rows
Change to yarn C
□ Beg with a k row, work eight rows in st st
□ Next row: (k2tog) seven times. Seven sts
Cut yarn, leaving a long tail for making up, thread through rem sts, pull up tightly and fasten off

Legs and shoes

(make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on 16 sts
□ Beg with a k row, work four rows in st st
Join in yarn D
□ Work four rows in st st
□ Rep last eight rows three times more (eight stripes worked altogether)
Change to yarn A
□ K six rows

SHAPE INSTEP AND TOE

□ Next row: k11, turn
□ Next row: k6, turn
□ K ten rows on these six sts
□ Next row: skpo, k2, k2tog. Four sts
□ K three rows

KEEP KNITTING ON P14

knitwise

BABY-PROOF YOUR TOY!

However adorable Bernard might be, a few of his details aren't quite suitable for babies and toddlers – but why should they miss out on this Christmas cutie? Swap his beaded eyes for embroidered features, and instead of sewing the bells to the outside of his shoes – why not stuff them inside his shoes? Although he might be missing the visual aspect of the bells, he will still be interactive, and incredibly fun.



"Bernard is a cute Christmas companion who would make a lovely stocking filler, and a great way of using up festive-coloured oddments of yarn."

LK DESIGNER ZOË HALSTEAD



FUN FOR
**ALL
AGES!**

- Next row: skpo, k2tog. Two sts
- K ten rows
- Next row: k2tog. One st
- Cut yarn, thread through rem st, pull up tightly and fasten off
- With RS facing, rejoin yarn to end of sts on RH needle and pick up and k 15 sts along edge of instep and toe, turn. 20 sts
- K two rows
- Cast off three sts at beg of next and foll alt row. 14 sts
- Cont in garter st, dec one st at each end of next three rows. Eight sts
- K one row
- Cast off
- With RS facing, rejoin yarn to point of toe and pick up and k 15 sts along edge of toe and instep, then k five sts on LH needle. 20 sts
- K one row
- Cast off three sts at beg of next and foll alt row. 14 sts
- K one row
- Dec one st at each end of next three rows. Eight sts
- K one row
- Cast off

Tunic skirt

Using 4mm needles and yarn D, cast on 46 sts

- K five rows
- Change to yarn A
- Beg with a k row, work in st st until piece meas 5.5cm ending after a p row

BELT

Change to yarn E

- K three rows
- Cast off

Collar

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on 20 sts

- K two rows
- Next row: k2, * m1, k2, rep from * to end. 29 sts
- Next row: k
- Next row: k2, * m1, k3, rep from * to end. 38 sts
- Next row: k
- Next row: k3, m1, * k4, m1, rep from * to last three sts, k3. 47 sts
- Next row: k
- Next row: k3, m1, * k5, m1, rep from * to last four sts, k4. 56 sts
- Next row (WS): k5, turn
- Work on these five sts only
- Next row: skpo, k to end
- K one row, turn
- Rep the last two rows until two sts rem
- Next row: k2tog. One st

Cut yarn, thread through rem st, pull up tightly and fasten off

**** With WS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts and cont as follows:**

- Next row (WS): k8, turn
- Work on these eight sts only
- Next row: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. Six sts
- K one row, turn
- Rep the last two rows twice more. Two sts
- Next row: k2tog. One st
- Cut yarn, thread through rem st, pull up tightly and fasten off ******
- Rep from ****** to ****** five times more
- With WS facing, rejoin yarn to rem three sts and k one row
- Next row: k1, k2tog. Two sts
- K one row
- Next row: k2tog. One st
- Cut yarn, thread through rem st, pull up tightly and fasten off

Hat

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 42 sts

- K five rows
- Change to yarn A
- Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st
- Cont in st st dec one st at each end of next and every foll alt row until four sts rem
- Cut yarn, leaving a long tail for making up, thread through rem sts, pull up tightly and fasten off

To make up

Weave in all ends. Sew centre back seam of head and body using mattress stitch. Attach toy eyes in positions as shown. Stuff head firmly. Using yarn left at top of nose, sew running stitches all around edge of nose piece. Place small amount of stuffing in centre of wrong side of nose, draw up thread to form a ball. Sew nose to Bernard's face in position as shown. Turn one ear over to make a mirrored pair then sew each to side of Bernard's head in positions using image as a guide, leaving top points free. Embroider a mouth using pink embroidery thread.

Using yarn A, sew running stitches around neck at narrowest part, draw up then fasten off securely. Stuff body firmly.

Fold each leg with right sides together and sew heel, sole and toe seam of each shoe. Turn right side out making sure to push full length

Discover our top toy knitting tips on page 41



of toe out. Sew centre back seam of each leg using mattress stitch and matching stripes. Stuff leg and shoe, but not toe, firmly. Over-sew top edges of each leg. Place top of legs in bottom edge of body and sew through all layers to secure legs and make sure they can hinge at body.

Sew arm seam, stuff firmly then sew shaped section at top of arm over shoulder shapings. Sew centre back seam of Tunic. Place on toy so that bottom edge of Tunic skirt falls in third stripe down on legs. Sew top edge to body all around, using black yarn and duplicate stitch. Using an oddment of Gold yarn, sew straight stitches over belt at centre front to form belt buckle. Turn collar over so wrong side is uppermost. Weave in all ends. Place collar on Bernard's neck, sew centre back seam. Sew loops of yarn G around Bernard's hairline and in front of and behind ears. Sew centre back seam of hat

and sew bell to point. Place hat on Bernard's head over hair and sew in place all the way round. Sew a bell to end of toe on each shoe, encouraging toe to curl upwards **LK**

coming next issue

CUDDLY GIRAFFE TOY BY VAL PIERCE

On sale 20 December



designeryarns



ARAN WITH WOOL



DYP179 from DY Choice pattern range using Aran With Wool

For details of complete DY Choice range please visit:
www.designeryarns.uk.com/dy-choice

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CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

FRIDAY 13 DECEMBER 2013

**MAKE THE WORLD
BETTER WITH A SWEATER**

Wear a festive jumper, donate £1
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Get your free Christmas Jumper Day
kit at **christmasjumperday.org**



Registered charity England and Wales (213890) Scotland (SC039570)

Photos: Steven Jackson/Save the Children

AIR LUX

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Find more models, patterns and a list of shops in your area on

www.katia.com



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE HOMEWARES PATTERNS

Camellia is a modern *kitchen cosy* set by *Helen Ardley*

There's nothing more wonderfully British than pouring a steaming hot cup of tea. And where would we be in this modern age without some properly brewed coffee to kick-start the day? This winter, it's time to treat your well-loved kitchen sets to some knitted love of their own. Named after the tea plant *camellia sinensis*, there's a matching cosy for your teapot, cafetiere and favourite mug. Each has a simple cable edging and a pretty embroidered snowflake motif.

START KNITTING ON P18



PERFECT
FOR
**FESTIVE
TABLES**

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

TEACOSY:

Circumference (bottom): 53cm

Height: 24cm

MUG COSY:

Length: 22cm

Height: 10cm

CAFETIERE COSY:

Length: 26.5cm

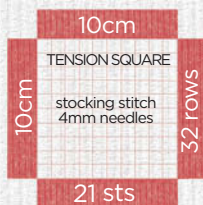
Height: 15cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Katia 100% Merino, (A) shade 29 [green], (B) shade 4 [red], (C) shade 1 [white], one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.75mm, 4mm

Buttons: small, wooden, six



ABOUT THE YARN

Katia 100% Merino is a DK yarn that comes in an array of colours. Its lovely twist gives a fantastic stitch definition, perfect for this simple cable pattern.

Need an alternative yarn?

Fancy making your tea the truly British way? **West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley DK** is a 75% wool and 25% acrylic blend, making a strong and versatile yarn. You can even pop it in the washing machine if you spill a few drops of tea!

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Katia 100% Merino costs £4.40 per 50g (102m) ball. For stockists, go to www.katia.com



West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley DK costs £4.75 per 100g (230m) ball from 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com

START KNITTING HERE

TEACOSY Side Panel (make two)

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn A, cast on 50 sts

□ K two rows
Change to 4mm needles and join in yarn B

□ Using yarn B, k two rows
Join in yarn C

□ Using yarn C, k two rows

□ Using yarn A, k two rows

□ Using yarn B, k two rows

Cont using yarn C only

□ Next row: k

□ Next row: k3, p44, k3

□ Rep last two rows seven times more

Change to yarn A and work patt as folls:

□ Row 1: k3, p5, (k4, p6) three times, k4, p5, k3

□ Row 2: k8, (p4, k6) three times, p4, k8

□ Rep Rows 1-2 once more

Change to yarn B

□ Row 5: k3, p2, p2tog, p1, (C4B, p2, p2tog, p2) three times, C4B, p2, p2tog, p1, k3. 45 sts

□ Row 6: k7, (p4, k5) three times, p4, k7

□ Row 7: k3, p4, (k4, p5) three times, k4, p4, k3

□ Row 8: rep Row 6

Change to yarn A

□ Row 9: k3, p2tog, p2, (k4, p2,



"Now that the festive season is underway, brighten up your coffee mornings with this set of cosies. They are easy to knit and you can always change the embroidery to create your own snowflake design."

LK DESIGNER HELEN ARDLEY

p2tog, p1) three times, k4, p2, p2tog, k3. 40 sts

□ Row 10: k6, (p4, k4) three times, p4, k6

□ Row 11: k3, p3, (C4B, p4) three times, C4B, p3, k3

□ Row 12: rep Row 10

Change to yarn C

□ Row 13: k3, p2tog, p1 (k4, p1, p2tog, p1) three times, k4, p1, p2tog, k3. 35 sts

□ Row 14: k5, (p4, k3) three times, p4, k5

Change to yarn B

□ Row 15: k3, p2, (k4, p3) three times, k4, p2, k3

□ Row 16: k5, (p4, k3) three times, p4, k5

These last two rows form rib patt

□ Row 17: k3, p2, (C4B, p3) three times, C4B, p2, k3

□ Rows 18-22: beg with Row 16, work in rib patt

Change to yarn A

□ Row 23: rep Row 17

□ Rows 24-28: beg with Row 16, work in rib patt

The button loops are made by simply casting on ten stitches and then casting them off again!



- Row 29: rep Row 17
- Row 30: rep Row 16
- Change to yarn C and cont in rib patt until panel meas 23cm
- Cast off

To make up

Sew in all loose ends, sew teacosy sides together 3cm up from bottom on both sides then on handle side leave gap of 10cm and sew up to top. On spout side leave a gap of 7cm and sew to top. Make a 50cm twisted cord out of yarns A and B and tie around top of cosy. Embroider snowflakes and stars to sides, using image as a guide (see Knitwise panel)

MUG COSY

NOTE: letters foll instructions denote which yarn to use
Using 3.75mm needles and yarn A, cast on 22 sts
□ K two rows

knitwise

SEW SIMPLE: Embroidery can be a bit of a head scratcher for us knitters – only one needle? And why is it so small? To keep your work secure, cut a long length of yarn and tie the end securely to prevent it pulling through. Insert your needle through the centre of the knit stitches to create a neat finish, and be sure not to pull too tightly, or you may cause the fabric to wrinkle. Remember, take care – and if you're unsure, knit up a swatch and practise the technique until you feel more confident.

Change to 4mm needles and join in yarn B

□ Using yarn B, k two rows
Join in yarn C

□ Using yarn C, k two rows
□ Using yarn A, k two rows
□ Using yarn B, k one row
□ Next row: k3, m1, k to last three sts, m1, k3. 24 sts

MAIN PATT

□ Row 1 (RS): k5 A, p1 C, k12 C, p1 C, k5 B
□ Row 2: k1 B, p4 B, k1 C, p12 C, k1 C, p4 A, k1 A
□ Rows 3-4: rep Rows 1-2
□ Row 5: k1 A, C4B A, p1 C, k12 C, p1 C, C4B B, k1 B
□ Row 6: rep Row 2
These six rows form patt
□ Cont in patt until work meas 22.5cm ending after a WS row
Change to yarn B
□ Next row: k across row dec two sts evenly. 22 sts
□ Next row: k
Join in yarn A
□ Using yarn A, k two rows
Join in yarn C
□ Using yarn C, k two rows
□ Using yarn B, k one row
Change to 3.75mm needles and yarn A
□ K two rows
□ Cast off

Button loops

(make three)

With 3.75mm needles and yarn

A cast on ten sts

□ Cast off

To make up

Sew in all loose ends. Sew three tabs to one end of mug cosy and three buttons to correspond with button loops on opposite side. Embroider snowflakes and stars to centre panel, using image as a guide

CAFETIERE COSY

NOTE: letters foll instructions denote which yarn to use
With 3.75mm needles and yarn A cast on 32 sts

□ K two rows
Change to 4mm needles and join in yarn B
□ Using yarn B, k two rows
Join in yarn C
□ Using yarn C, k two rows
□ Using yarn A, k two rows
□ Using yarn B, k one row

□ Next row (inc): k3, m1, k4, m1, k18, m1, k4, m1, k3. 36 sts

MAIN PATT

□ Row 1 (RS): k5 B, p1 A, k4 A, p1 C, k14 C, p1 C, k4 A, p1 A, k5 B
□ Row 2: k1 B, p4 B, k1 A, p4 A, k1 C, p14 C, k1 C, p4 A, k1 A, p4 B, k1 B
□ Rows 3-4: rep Rows 1-2
□ Row 5: k1 B, C4B B, p1 A, C4B A, p1 C, k14 C, p1 C, C4B A, p1 A, C4B B, k1 B
□ Row 6: k1 B, p4 B, k1 A, p4 A, k1 C, p14 C, k1 C, p4 A, k1 A, p4 B, k1 B
These six rows form main patt
□ Cont in patt until work meas 24.5cm ending after a WS row
Change to yarn B
□ Next row: k across row dec four sts evenly. 32 sts
□ Next row: k
Join in yarn A
□ Using yarn A, k two rows

Join in yarn C

□ Using yarn C, k two rows
□ Using yarn B, k two rows
Change to 3.75mm needles and yarn A
□ K two rows
□ Cast off

Button loops

(make three)

With 3.75mm needles and yarn A, cast on ten sts
□ Cast off

To make up

Sew in all loose ends. Sew three button loops to one end of cafeteria cosy and three buttons to correspond with loops on opposite side. Embroider snowflakes and stars to centre panel, using image as a guide (see Knitwise panel) **LK**



A festive cosy along with some special teas would make a great gift

"Why not match the set to your kitchen's colour scheme or design your own flower motif for cosies that last all year round?"



LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS

coming
nextissue

HERRINGBONE BLANKET BY
KELLY MENZIES

On sale 20th December



Inspiration STATION

Our round-up of what's hot in the knitting universe

Hooking Herdy

Meet La'al Herdy, adorable crocheted toys made with 100% British Wool. They are handmade by women in the La Dat region of Vietnam, as part of a Fair Trade initiative to empower rural women. Each La'al Herdy costs £20 from **01539 739202**, www.herdy.co.uk



A String of Pearls

You may be amazed to learn that Hulu's latest lace yarn really is made from genuine pearls! Mixed with 50% tencel, the pearl powder creates a beautifully soft and lustrous yarn, while the tencel adds strength and creates a lovely drape. One 875m skein costs £29.95 from www.hulucrafts.co.uk



It's A Wonderful Lief

Oh-lief Natural Olive Hand Wax is an intensive moisturising treatment blended with natural oils of extra virgin olive, avocado, roman chamomile, lavender and tea tree. There are no artificial chemicals or fragrances, making it ideal for sore hands after long hours of crafting. £16.99, **0845 060 6070**, www.ohlief.com



A Very Merry Christmas

We love this collection of fab festive homewares from the Wendy Merry Christmas collection (358). The booklet contains 17 seasonal patterns, including jumpers, stockings and other accessories – but our favourite has to be that reindeer tea cosy! The booklet costs £5.75 from **07974 954663**, www.awoollytail.com



WIN one of these kits!

Scarf Style

Just in time for Christmas, CashmeRED has launched five beautiful scarf kits in striking colour combinations. Each costs £55 from **01242 256797**, www.cashmered.net. Alternatively, turn to p81 to win one of the two kits!



High Society

MillaMia's new collection, High Society, is a glamorous assortment of six adult patterns using the gorgeous Naturally Soft Merino. Buy your copy for £8 from www.millamia.com or download patterns individually from www.ravelry.com

Up the Stairs

Spun and hand-dyed using soft Bluefaced Leicester, LK loves Apples & Pears, a new 100% British range from Addicted2Knit.

Each 50g (103m) skein costs £6.50.

Call 0208 368 9041,

www.addicted2knitsshop.co.uk

Did you know?

In Elizabethan times, a law was passed that required Englishmen to wear a woollen cap to church on Sundays, part of a government scheme to support the wool industry.



Charity of the Month

SPANNA

The Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad helps working animals in Africa and the Middle East, providing clinics, education and disaster relief. As part of the Big Knit for Vet Kit fundraiser, you can raise money by knitting one of LK designer Val Pierce's incredibly cute toys.

How about Duncan the Donkey? Hattie the Horse? Even crocheters can get involved with Clarence the Camel! Twiggy – a keen knitter and animal welfare campaigner – has voiced support for the campaign, saying "I know everyone will have so much fun knitting their very own gorgeous camels, horses and donkeys... It's a privilege to be supporting this campaign as SPANA continues to work tirelessly in some of the world's poorest countries." Go to

www.spana.org to download a free pack, or call 02078 313999.



Knock your socks off

The talented Anna Wilkinson has designed these pretty sock kits for Gomitoli's – perfect for snuggling up by the fire this December. The kits are available in varying colours, using either 100% cashmere or a cashmere-wool blend. Go to www.gomitoli.it to find out more.

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Size (approx):

S (M, L, XL)

Actual chest (cm):

84 (92, 100, 110)

Length from shoulder (cm):

51 (53, 55, 57)

Sleeve length (cm):

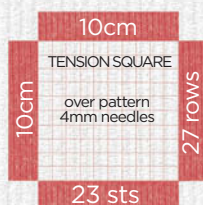
53 (54, 54, 54)

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Bergere de France Sport, shade 212.341 Corrida, 15 (16, 17, 19) 50g balls

Needles: 3mm, 4mm

Cable needle



ABOUT THE YARN

Bergere de France Sport is a warm yarn that blends 51% wool and 49% acrylic. It knits to a slightly heavy DK weight and is machine washable. There are also neutral and pastel shades if you'd prefer something less bright.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

3CL2K: sl three sts on to cn, hold at front of work, k2, k3 from cn

roll: work five sts in st st, turn, cont working back and forth in st st over these five sts for nine more rows, with WS facing sl cn into top of each st on first roll row, with RS facing, use RH needle to k first st from LH needle tog with first st on cn until all sts from cn have been worked

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Bergere de France Sport costs £2.80 per 50g (90m) ball from 0845 838 3762, www.intoknit.co.uk

LET'S KNIT GARMENT PATTERN

Lille from Bergere de France is bubbling over with fabulous textures!

Rolls and cables combine to great effect in this eye-catching winter sweater. The all-over stitch pattern is shown in a Chart – see our Knitwise panel on how to read the Chart. Try to keep the pattern correct when shaping, remembering that if you don't have enough stitches to work a full cable or roll, just work these stitches in stocking stitch.

START KNITTING HERE

Back

Using 3mm needles cast on 87 (93, 101, 109) sts

□ Beg with a k row work five rows in st st

□ Next row (WS): k

□ Beg with a k row work six rows in st st

Change to 4mm needles

□ Beg with a k row work two rows in st st inc 26 (28, 30, 34) sts evenly across first row. 113 (121, 131, 143) sts

NOTE: for second size, there will not be enough sts to work a full 3CL2K at beg of row so work these sts in st st

□ Next row (RS): k1 (1, 4, 2), beg on st 7 (3, 1, 1) of Chart A (overleaf) work 111 (119, 123, 139) sts from Row 1 of Chart A ending after st 37 (41, 43, 43) of Chart, k1 (1, 4, 2)

□ Next row: p to end

□ Keeping first and last 1 (1, 4, 2) sts of row in st st, and working appropriate Chart row over rem 111 (119, 123, 139) sts, cont as set until work meas 32 (33, 33, 34) cm ending after a WS row

ARMHOLES

NOTE: when the number of sts does not allow for a full roll or 3CL2K replace these sts with st st

□ Keeping patt correct cast off two sts at beg of next four rows, then one st at beg of foll six rows. 99 (107, 117, 129) sts

□ Cont in patt as set until work meas 50 (52, 54, 56) cm ending after a WS row

SHAPE NECK AND SHOULDERS

□ Next row (RS): cast off 6 (6,

7, 8) sts [one st on RH needle], patt 30 (33, 35, 39) sts, cast off central 25 (27, 31, 33) sts for neck [one st on RH needle], patt 36 (39, 42, 47) Cont on this set of 37 (40, 43, 48) sts only

□ Next row: cast off 6 (6, 7, 8) sts, patt to cast-off gap, turn. 31 (34, 36, 40) sts

□ Next row: cast off three sts at neck edge, patt to end. 28 (31, 33, 37) sts

□ Next row: cast off 6 (6, 7, 8) sts, patt to cast-off gap, turn. 22 (25, 26, 29) sts

□ Next row: cast off two sts at neck edge, patt to end. 20 (23, 24, 27) sts

□ Next row: cast off 6 (7, 7, 8) sts, patt to cast-off gap, turn. 14 (16, 17, 19) sts

□ Rep last two rows once more. 6 (7, 8, 9) sts

□ Next row (RS): patt to end

□ Cast off

□ With WS facing rejoin yarn to rem 31 (34, 36, 40) sts, cast off three sts, patt to end. 28 (31, 33, 37) sts

□ Next row (RS): cast off 6 (6, 7, 8) sts, patt to end. 22 (25, 26, 29) sts

□ Next row: cast off two sts, patt to end. 20 (23, 24, 27) sts

□ Next row: cast off 6 (7, 7, 8) sts, patt to end.

□ Rep last two rows once more. 6 (7, 8, 9) sts

□ Next row (WS): patt to end

□ Cast off

Front

□ Work as for Back to Armholes

ARMHOLES

□ Dec as for Back. 99 (107, 117, 129) sts

□ Cont in patt as set until work meas 46 (48, 50, 52) cm ending after a WS row

FIRST AND THIRD SIZES ONLY

□ Next row (RS): patt 38 (-, 44, -) sts, cast off next 23 (-, 29, -) sts **AT THE SAME TIME** working as folls: [k1, k2tog] 7 (-, 9, -) times, k2, patt to end

SECOND AND FOURTH SIZES ONLY

□ Next row (RS): patt - (41, - 49) sts, cast off next - (25, -, 31) sts **AT THE SAME TIME** working as folls: k1, [k2tog, k1] - (8, -, 10) times, patt to end

ALL SIZES - SHAPE RIGHT NECK

□ Next row (WS): patt to cast-off gap, turn

**** Cont on rem 38 (41, 44, 49) sts casting off on RS rows as folls:**

□ Next RS row: cast off three sts at neck edge, patt to end. 35 (38, 41, 46) sts

□ Next RS row: cast off two sts at neck edge, patt to end. 33 (36, 39, 44) sts

□ Cast off one st at neck edge at beg of foll three RS rows. 30 (33, 36, 41) sts

□ Cont in patt without shaping until work meas 50 (52, 54, 56)

KEEP KNITTING ON P24

knitwise

TOP OF THE CHARTS: In this pattern, not all sizes begin on the first stitch of the Charts (see overleaf). This will affect your pattern repeat and you may not end on the last stitch of the Chart. All WS rows are worked p to end. Remember that RS rows are read from right to left and WS rows from left to right.



"Make sure you pull the yarn tight between a roll and the next stitch to avoid a hole forming"

LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER



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sts ending after a WS row **

SHAPE RIGHT SHOULDER

- Next row (RS): patt to end
- Cast off 6 (6, 7, 8) sts at beg of next and foll 4 (1, 3, 3) WS rows, then 0 (7, 8, 9) sts at beg of foll 0 (3, 1, 1) WS rows

SHAPE LEFT NECK

- Rep from ** to ** casting off at beg of WS rows to reverse shaping

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

- Cast off 6 (6, 7, 8) sts at beg of next and foll 4 (1, 3, 3) RS rows, then 0 (7, 8, 9) sts at beg of foll 0 (3, 1, 1) RS rows

Sleeves

Using 3mm needles cast on 42 (44, 46, 48) sts

- Beg with a k row work five rows in st st
- Next row (WS): k
- Beg with a k row work six rows in st st
- Change to 4mm needles
- Beg with a k row work two rows st st inc 15 sts evenly across first row. 57 (59, 61, 63) sts

FIRST SIZE ONLY

- Next row (RS): k1, beg on third st of Chart B work nine sts from Row 1 of Chart omitting first 3CL2K and working these sts as st st, k5, beg on st 17 of Chart A work 27 sts from Row 1 of Chart A, k5, beg on third st of Chart B work nine sts from Row 1 of Chart B as before, k1
- Next row: p to end

SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH SIZES ONLY

- Next row (RS): k- (0, 1, 2), work Row 1 of Chart B, k5, beg on st 17 of Chart A work 27 sts

from Row 1 of Chart A, k5, work Row 1 of Chart B, k- (0, 1, 2) sts

- Next row: p to end

ALL SIZES

- Keeping 1 (0, 1, 2) sts at each end of row and five sts between Charts in st st and working appropriate Chart row, cont in patt as set until work meas 8.5cm ending after a WS row

SHAPE SLEEVE

- Next row (RS): patt 2, m1, patt to last two sts, m1, patt to end. 59 (61, 63, 65) sts
- Cont to inc one st as set at each end of every foll 12th (12th, 10th, 8th) row 8 (4, 2, 11) times, then on foll 0 (10th, 8th, 6th) row 0 (5, 10, 2) times. 75 (79, 87, 91) sts
- Cont in patt without shaping until work meas 48 (49, 49, 49) cm ending after a WS row
- Cast off two sts at beg of next six rows, then cast off three sts at beg of next eight rows. 39 (43, 51, 55) sts
- Cast off

Collar

Using 3mm needles cast on 80 (84, 88, 93) sts

- Beg with a k row work five rows in st st
- Next row: k
- Beg with a k row work six rows in st st
- Cast off

To make up

Join shoulder seams. Sew Collar around neck edge. Join short edges of Collar. Turn back 2cm of Collar to the wrong side stitch in place. Sew Sleeves into position, sew side and sleeve seams. Turn back 2cm at bottom of body and Sleeves and stitch to secure **LK**

CHART A

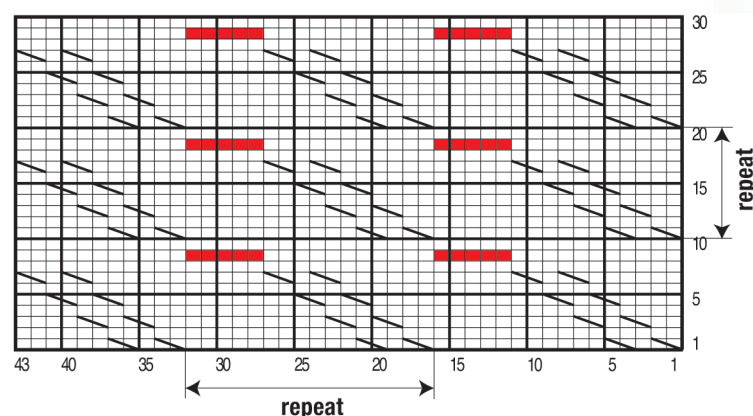
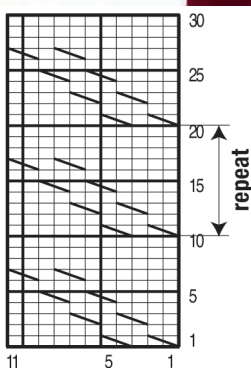


CHART B



- Key**
- = k on RS, p on WS
 - = 1 roll
 - ▨ = 3CL2K

*coming
next issue*

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SWEATER FROM SIRDAR**

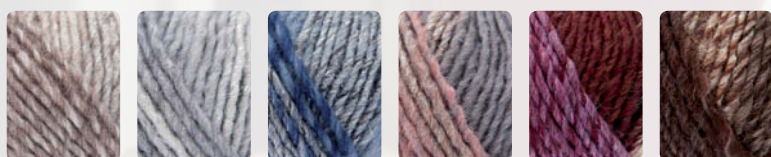
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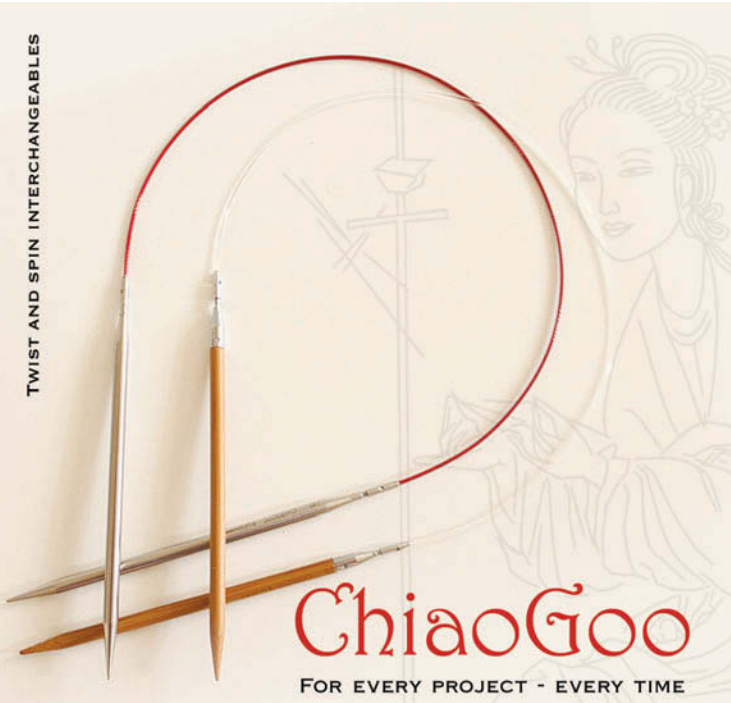
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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE QUICK KNIT PATTERNS

Rejoice is a set of three festive *quick knits*

These three cute knits by Susie Johns are quick to make, and a great pastime for the cold evenings.

Why not make a whole troop of snowmen to decorate your windowsill? Or use the stockings to hold sweets as Christmas dinner favours? And a garland of miniature wreaths would make a beautiful and modern adornment to a mantelpiece. When projects are this small, the possibilities are endless!

START KNITTING ON P28

SUPER
**QUICK
KNITS!**

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Wreath: diameter: 4cm

Snowman: height: 8cm

Stocking: length: 10cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: MillaMia Naturally Soft Merino (A) shade 141 Grass, (B) shade 124 Snow, (C) shade 140 Scarlet, one 50g (125m) ball of each, (D) oddments of black 4ply yarn

Needles: 3.25mm

Tapestry needle

Wreath:

Glass seeds beads: red

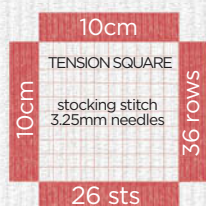
Ribbon: small, narrow, red

25mm plastic curtain ring

Sewing needle and red sewing thread

Snowman:

Safety toy stuffing



ABOUT THE YARN

Milla Mia Naturally Soft Merino is a supersoft wool yarn from Italy which falls somewhere between a 4ply and a DK weight. Made from 100% extra fine merino wool, the lovely twist gives excellent stitch definition. Available in 17 pretty colours.

Need an alternative yarn?

Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino knits to a similar tension, and is a gorgeous blend of merino, wool, microfibre and cashmere. Choose from 32 different colours.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

inc2: k into front, back and front of next st

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



MillaMia Naturally Soft Merino costs £5.50 per 50g (125m) ball from 08450 177474, www.millamia.com

Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino costs £4.94 per 50g (125m) ball from 01244 389310, www.stashfineyarns.com



START KNITTING HERE

WREATH

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on seven sts

□ Row 1 (WS): (k1, p1) three times, k1

□ Row 2: k2, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, k2. Five sts

□ Row 3: (p1, k1) twice, p1

□ Row 4: k2, inc2, k2. Seven sts

□ Rep Rows 1-4 eight times

□ Cast off

To make up

Join two short ends, then wrap strip around a curtain ring, oversewing long edges together. Sew seed beads, spaced at regular intervals, all over wreath. Tie short length of narrow red ribbon into a neat bow and stitch in place, with a few seed beads in centre. Make a loop of yarn for hanging.

SNOWMAN Body and head (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn B, cast on three sts

□ Row 1: (kfb) three times. Six sts

□ Row 2 (and every even-numbered row): p

□ Row 3: (k1, kfb) three times. Nine sts

□ Row 5: (k2, kfb) three times. 12 sts

□ Row 7: (k3, kfb) three times. 15 sts

□ Row 9: (k4, kfb) three times. 18 sts

□ Row 11: k

□ Row 13: (k4, k2tog) three times. 15 sts

□ Row 15: (k3, k2tog) three times. 12 sts

□ Row 17: (k2, k2tog) three times. Nine sts

□ Row 19: (k1, k2tog) three times. Six sts

□ Row 21: (k1, kfb) three times. Nine sts

□ Row 23: (k2, kfb) three times. 12 sts

□ Row 25: k

□ Row 27: (k2, k2tog) three times. Nine sts

□ Row 29: (k1, k2tog) three times. Six sts

□ Row 31: (k2tog) three times

□ Cut yarn and thread tail through rem three sts, pull tight and fasten off

Scarf

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on four sts

□ Row 1: k

□ Using yarn C, work two rows in garter st

□ Using yarn A, work two rows in garter st

□ Cont in two-row stripe sequence until work meas 11cm, ending with yarn A

□ Cast off

To make up

With right sides together, stitch side seams. Insert stuffing through small opening at top of head then pull up yarn end to close. Fasten off and form yarn tail into loop for hanging. Embroider features using black yarn. Weave in yarn ends on scarf, make two small pompoms using yarn A and stitch to either end. Wrap scarf around Snowman's neck and cross ends in front, securing with a small stitch

STOCKING

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn C, cast on 20 sts

□ Row 1: k tbl to end

□ Rows 2-3: k

□ Rows 4-5: using yarn A and beg with a k row, work in st st

□ Rows 6-7: using yarn C, work in st st

□ Rep Rows 4-7 four times more and Rows 4-5 once more

TURN HEEL

Change to yarn C

□ Row 26: k5, turn

□ Row 27 and all odd-numbered rows: p

□ Row 28: k4, turn

□ Row 30: k3, turn

□ Row 32: k2, turn

□ Row 34: k3, turn

□ Row 36: k4, turn

□ Row 38: k to end

□ Row 39: p5, turn

□ Row 40 and all even-numbered rows: k

□ Row 41: p3, turn

□ Row 43: p2, turn

□ Row 45: p3, turn

□ Row 47: p4, turn

□ Row 49: p to end

FOOT

□ Rows 50-51: using yarn A

and beg with a k row, work two rows in st st

□ Row 52: using yarn C, k1, skpo, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 18 sts

□ Row 53: p

□ Keeping two-row stripe sequence correct, rep last two rows until ten sts rem

□ Row 62: k1, skpo, k4, k2tog, k1. Eight sts

□ Row 63: (p2tog) four times. Four sts

□ Cut yarn and thread tail through sts, pull tight and fasten off

To make up

Fold in half with right sides together, stitch seam along base of foot and up back of leg. Turn right sides out. Make a plait from two strands of yarn A and one strand of yarn C, form it into a loop and stitch to top of seam on inside of stocking **LK**



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Festive FIBRES

Ding dong merrily on high!
The Christmas bells are ringing...

Whether you're making a glamorous Christmas party outfit, or a set of decorations for your tree, we all know that the festive season is about sparkles and glitter – the more dazzling the better! We've been taking our pick of the most fabulous shimmery yarns.

1 Stylecraft Eskimo

This 100% polyester eyelash yarn is perfect for creating fluffy scarves and faux-fur fabrics – everything you need during the brisk winter season. Plus, its luscious sheen will add a touch of glamour to the project. Finally, it's fully machine washable, making it fantastic for kids. Knits to a DK tension. One 50g (90m) ball costs £1.89 from **07974 954663**, www.awoollytail.com

8 Red Heart Shimmer

Knitting to a heavy DK weight, Shimmer comes in 13 different shades, each spun with a sparkly metallic thread. It is made up of 97% acrylic and 3% polyester, with a strong twist and a soft handle. Ideal for warm garments and accessories which need a little bit of glitter to brighten up the dark evenings! One 100g (256m) ball costs £3.09 from **0800 488 0708**, www.deramores.com

7 King Cole Tinsel Chunky

New for the 2013 festive season, King Cole Tinsel Chunky is exactly what its name suggests! The eyelash strands are made up of sparkly lurex threads, mixed in with softer polyester, creating a surprisingly wearable yarn. It is available in nine bright and Christmassy shades, and will be great for decorations and gifts, as well as accessories. Each 50g (70m) ball costs £2.45 from **0117 300 5211**, www.getknitted.com

6 Colourmart Cashmere 4ply with rainbow lurex

This beautiful Todd and Duncan cashmere 4ply is made up of two strands of laceweight yarn loosely spun together with a thin lurex thread in rainbow colours. The result is outstanding, with more sparkle than Times Square on New Year's Eve! One 150g (1005m) skein costs £23.75. Go to www.colourmart.com or call **01743 466883**.

2 Bergere de France Galaxie

This lovely acrylic and wool blend is spun with a bright and light metallic thread that blends easily with the wool, creating a soft and subtle effect. The super chunky weight is loosely plied, yet finished with a bold distinctive twist. Best of all, the red-and-gold combination of shade 27288 Carmin is truly festive. One 50g (82m) ball costs £3.24 from **01273 508768**, www.cocoonknits.co.uk

3 Designette Andrea di Bonaiuto

With a 70% superkid mohair and 30% silk blend, Designette's light and fluffy Andrea di Bonaiuto yarn is great for those lightweight shawls and openwork lace projects. It is available in six colours which are all dyed using natural produce, and the light sheen to this olive shade is perfect for Christmas. One ball of 25g (220m) costs £10.25 from www.designette.co.uk

4 Katia Grace

This unusual scarf yarn is made with an open diamond-shaped lattice, and is trimmed with tiny metal beads. By knitting or crocheting into the top layer along with another yarn, you will create a pretty ruffled fabric. It also works particularly well as a trim! It is available in brown and cream shades. For more on scarf yarns, turn to p72. One 4.5m roll costs £6.99 from **01925 764231**, www.blacksheepwools.com

5 Louisa Harding Grace Hand Beaded

Louisa Harding's luxurious merino wool and mulberry silk blend is a beautiful yarn with approximately 500 glass beads, each threaded by hand. The result is a wonderfully soft touch with a glamorous finish, perfect for Christmas and New Year's Eve parties. It knits to a standard DK tension and tones wonderfully with Louisa Harding Grace and Grace Hand Dyed. One 50g (67.5m) skein costs £8.50 from **01377 255093**, www.littlehoundalesknits.com



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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORY PATTERN

Elska

is a pair of *festive socks* with a pretty *scandi style* pattern

Complete with a couple holding hands, what could be cosier on a cold wintry evening than some snuggly socks to wear by the fire?

Jane Burns has designed this beautiful pair using Fair Isle techniques, and the stranded colourwork method will add an extra layer of warmth. When washing, be sure to dry flat to prevent the dye running, and use a sock blocker to keep the shape.

START KNITTING ON P34

TRY
KNITTING
SOCKS!

knitwise

FAIR ISLE SOCKS: Stranded colourwork is a fantastic way to keep your knitting exciting, and the effects are not only stunning – they're also bang on trend. However, knitting with double-pointed needles can also be a little tricky, so the two together might seem intimidating! But don't worry, a little practice and you'll be just fine. Turn to pages 82-83 for a demonstration by deputy editor Adrienne.

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

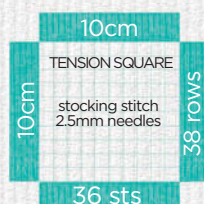
Average size ladies feet

Foot length: 21cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: (A) Schoppel Wolle Admiral Ombre 4ply Sock Yarn, shade 1957, one 100g ball, (B) Regia 4ply Sock yarn, shade 006 White, one 50g ball

Needles: 2.5mm double-pointed



ABOUT THE YARN

Schoppel Wolle Admiral Ombre is a variegated 75% superwash wool yarn, blended with 25% nylon for strength. So you can wear your socks again and again!

Regia 4ply Sock Yarn is a classic sock yarn made up of the same 75% superwash wool and 25% nylon blend, and is available in a huge range of shades.

Need an alternative yarn?

Red Heart Sport Socks is a strong 75% wool and 25% polyamide yarn, which is great for sock knitting. Try shades 044 Red and 009 Natural to match.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

N1: needle one, first needle of the round

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88

START KNITTING HERE

Socks (make two)

Using yarn B and long tail method, cast on 72 sts evenly across four needles, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts

□ Rnds 1-15: * k2, p2, rep from * to end

□ Rnds 16-20: k

□ Rnds 21-57: work Chart A (see Knitwise)

Cont in yarn A

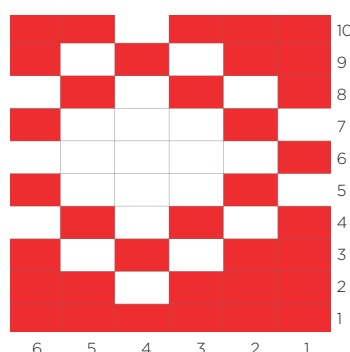
□ Rnds 58-73: k

SET UP RND FOR HEEL

□ Rnd 74: N1: k4, pm (this marks beg of new rnd), k to end, with same needle k four sts from N2, N2: k to end, with same needle k four sts from N3, N3: k to end, with same needle k four sts from N4, N4: k to end, with same needle k first four sts on N1 (to marker). 18 sts on each needle

□ Next rnd: N1-3: k, sl N4 sts on to end of N1

CHART B



Work back and forth on these 36 sts only to form heel flap

HEEL FLAP

□ Row 1: * sl 1, k1, rep from * to end. 36 sts

□ Row 2: sl 1, p to end. 36 sts

□ Rep Rows 1-2 12 more times

TURN HEEL

□ Row 1: k18, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 2: sl 1, p1, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 3: sl 1, k2, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 4: sl 1, p3, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 5: sl 1, k4, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 6: sl 1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 7: sl 1, k6, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 8: sl 1, p7, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 9: sl 1, k8, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 10: sl 1, p9, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 11: sl 1, k10, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 12: sl 1, p11, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 13: sl 1, k12, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 14: sl 1, p13, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 15: sl 1, k14, ssk, k1, turn

□ Row 16: sl 1, p15, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Row 17: sl 1, k16, ssk, turn

□ Row 18: sl 1, p16, p2tog, turn

□ Next row: k9, pm

CHART A



Schoppel Wolle Admiral Ombre costs £7.50 per 100g (420m) ball from 01279 771153, www.modernknitting.co.uk

Regia 4ply Sock Yarn costs £4.25 per 50g (210m) ball from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com

Red Heart Sport Socks cost £4.49 per 100g (410m) ball from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

For 10% off all orders from Deramores, turn to page 35

10% off

HEEL GUSSET

□ With an empty needle, k rem nine sts, cont with same needle, pick up and k 16 sts along side of heel flap, pick up and k one stitch from row below (to prevent hole). N1: 26 sts

□ With an empty needle, k18 instep sts. N2: 18 sts

□ With an empty needle, k18 instep sts. N3: 18 sts

□ With an empty needle, pick up and k one stitch from row below then 16 sts along side of heel flap, k rem nine sts. N4: 26 sts

SHAPE GUSSET

□ Rnd 1 (dec): N1: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1, N2: k, N3: k, N4: k1, ssk, k to end

□ Rnd 2: k

□ Rep Rnds 1-2 until 72 sts rem

FOOT

NOTE: If you wish to adjust size of sock, cont to k every rnd after Rnd 35 in yarn A until Sock reaches recipient's big toe, then start toe shaping from **

□ Rnds 1-10: k

□ Rnds 11-20: work Chart B

□ Rnds 21-35: k

** Change to yarn B

□ Rnd 36: k

Shape toe

□ Rnd 1 (dec): N1: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1, N2: k1, ssk, k to end, N3: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1, N4: k1, ssk, k to end

□ Rnd 2: k

□ Rep Rnds 1-2 until 44 sts rem

□ Work Rnd 1 only until 32 sts rem

□ Using N4 k across sts on N1, sl sts from N2 to N3

Graft toe closed using

kitchener stitch (see p90) **LK**



"There's nothing worse than cold toes in winter. Jane's lovely socks are so pretty, and they'll look great even after the festive period is over"

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS



*coming
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LET'S KNIT GARMENT PATTERN

Robyn is an eye-catching *cabled jumper* from *Designer Yarns*

Named in honour of that tiny bird with the little red breast, this vibrant sweater is sure to turn heads. It features a striking cable pattern that runs horizontally; that's because this garment is knitted sideways from sleeve cuff to sleeve cuff. The aran-weight yarn makes the cables really stand out and you'll definitely be kept cosy this winter.

START KNITTING ON P38

KNITTED
SIDE-TO-
SIDE

knitwise

SHAPING WITH SUCCESS:

As this jumper is worked from side-to-side, all the shaping takes place on the sleeves. For the first four sizes the increases and decreases are worked every four rows. However, for the last four sizes, the shaping alternates between the fourth and second rows. This means you work the first shaping on the fourth row, then the next lot on the second row. The next shaping is done on the following fourth row again, then the next second row, and so on. It may help you to write this out in full so you can keep track as you work.

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Dress size (approx):

8 (10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22)

To fit chest (cm):

81 (86, 91, 97, 102, 107, 112, 117)

Actual bust (cm):

84 (90, 95, 101, 106, 111, 116, 122)

KNIT KIT

Yarn: DY Choice Aran with Wool, shade 509 Cranberry, 2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3) 400g balls

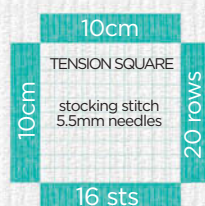
Needles: 5mm straight, 5mm (60cm) circular, 5.5mm straight

Cable needle

Waste yarn

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle



ABOUT THE YARN

DY Choice Aran with Wool is a thick and warm blend of 75% acrylic and 25% wool. It's machine washable and is available in 22 shades including solid and tweed effects. It comes in 400g balls so you only need two or three for this garment.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

C6F: sl three sts on to cn, hold at front of work, k3, k3 from cn

C6B: sl three sts on to cn, hold at back of work, k3, k3 from cn

C5BP: sl two sts on to cn, hold at back of work, k3, p2 from cn

C5FP: sl three sts on to cn, hold at front of work, p2, k3 from cn

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



DY Choice Aran with Wool costs £10 per 400g (800m) ball from 01377 255093, www.littlehondalesknits.com

Cable Panel (written instructions)

- Row 1: k3, p4, k6, p4, k3
- Row 2: p3, k4, p6, k4, p3
- Row 3: k3, p4, C6F, p4, k3
- Row 4: rep Row 2
- Rows 5-6: rep Rows 1-2
- Row 7: C5FP, p2, k6, p2, C5BP
- Row 8: k2, p3, k2, p6, k2, p3, k2
- Row 9: p2, C5FP, C6F, C5BP, p2
- Row 10: k4, p12, k4
- Row 11: p4, C6B, C6B, p4
- Row 12: k4, p12, k4
- Row 13: p2, C5BP, C6F, C5FP, p2
- Row 14: k2, p3, k2, p6, k2, p3, k2
- Row 15: C5BP, p2, k6, p2, C5FP
- Row 16: rep Row 2

START KNITTING HERE

Cuff

NOTE: incs for sleeve are first worked between cable panels, then at edges

Using 5mm needles, cast on 40 (40, 42, 42, 46, 46, 48, 48) sts

- Row 1 (WS): k
- Row 2: p
- Rows 3-4: k
- Rows 5-6: p
- Row 7: k
- Row 8: p
- Change to 5.5mm needles
- Next row (inc): p4 (4, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8), * m1, p3, rep from * to last 3 (3, 4, 4, 6, 6, 7, 7) sts, m1, p3 (3, 4, 4, 6, 6, 7, 7). 52 (52, 54, 54, 58, 58, 60, 60) sts

SLEEVE

Commence patt as folls:

- Row 1 (RS): k4 (4, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8), p2, [work Row 1 of Cable patt] twice, p2, k4 (4, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8)

- Row 2: p4 (4, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8), k2, [work Row 2 of Cable patt] twice, k2, p4 (4, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8)

These two rows set position of Chart. Keeping edge sts correct, cont from Chart inc as folls:

- Row 3: patt to last st of first Cable patt, kfb, kfb in first st of second Cable patt, complete Cable patt, patt to end. 54 (54, 56, 56, 60, 60, 62, 62) sts

- Row 4: patt to end of first Cable patt, pm, p2, pm, patt to end

NOTE: slip markers on each row, k all p sts and p all k sts

from prev row between markers

- Rows 5-6: patt to end
- Row 7: patt to marker, [pfb] twice, patt to end. 56 (56, 58, 58, 62, 62, 64, 64) sts
- Row 8: patt to marker, k1, p2, k1, patt to end

FIRST, SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH SIZES ONLY

- Row 9-10: patt to end
- Row 11: patt to marker, pfb, k2, pfb, patt to end. 58 (58, 60, 60, -, -, -, -) sts
- Row 12: patt to marker, k2, p2, k2, patt to end
- Rows 13-14: patt to end
- Row 15 (RS): patt to marker, p1, pfb, k2, pfb, p1, patt to end. 56 (56, 58, 58, -, -, -, -) sts
- Row 16: patt to marker, k2, p4, k2, patt to end

NOTE: centre panel between markers now has two sts in rev st st either side of a main st st section

Cont in patt as set, working central panel in st st with two-st rev st st border and inc as folls on every fourth row until there are 20 (20, 20, 22, -, -, -, -) sts between markers

- Inc row (RS): patt to marker, p2, k1, m1, k to last st in st st section, m1, k1, p2, patt to end

Cont in patt as set, working central panel in st st with two-st rev st st border and inc at each end of row as folls on every fourth row until there are 90 (94, 96, 98, -, -, -, -) sts

- Inc row (RS): k1, m1, patt to marker, p2, k16 (16, 16, 18, -, -, -, -), p2, patt to last st, m1, k1

FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH SIZES ONLY

- Row 9: patt to marker, pfb, k2, pfb, patt to end. - (-, -, -, 64, 64, 66, 66) sts

- Row 10: patt to marker, k2, p2, k2, patt to end

- Rows 11-12: patt to end

- Row 13: patt to marker, p1, pfb, k2, pfb, p1, patt to end. - (-, -, -, 62, 62, 64, 64) sts

- Row 14: patt to marker k2, p4, k2, patt to end

NOTE: centre panel between markers now has two sts in rev st st either side of a main st st section

Cont in patt as set, working central panel in st st with two-st rev st st border and inc as folls on every [second row, then foll fourth row] until there are - (-, -, -, 22, 24, 24, 24) sts between markers

- Inc row (RS): patt to marker, p2, k1, m1, k to last st in st st section, m1, k1, p2, patt to end

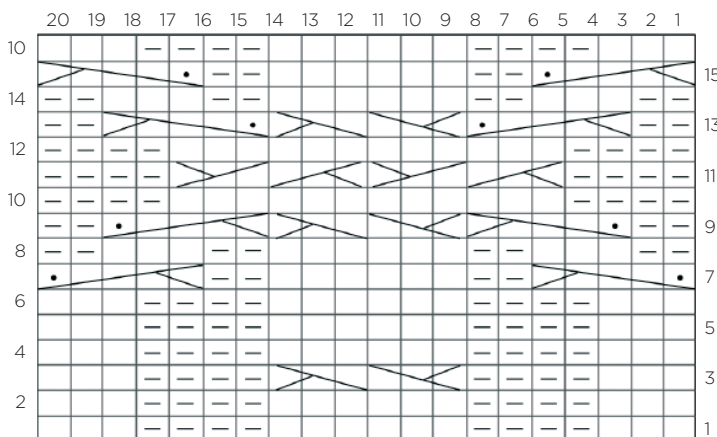
Cont in patt as set, working central panel in st st with two-st rev st st border and inc at each end of row as folls on every [second row, then foll fourth row] until there are - (-, -, -, 102, 104, 106, 110) sts

- Inc row (RS): k1, m1, patt to marker, p2, k- (-, -, -, 22, 24, 24, 24) sts, p2, patt to last st, m1, k1

ALL SIZES

When all shaping is complete, pm at each end of next row

- Cont without shaping until work meas 43 (44, 44.5, 44.5, 44.5, 45, 45, 45) cm, ending after a WS row



= C6f

= C5fp

= C6b

= C5bp

= Knit on rs, purl on ws

= Purl on rs, knit on ws



"This intricate cable looks really striking running horizontally across the sleeves and neckline!"

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT ADRIENNE CHANDLER

Pm at each end of last row

❑ Cast on four sts at beg of next four rows. 106 (110, 112, 114, 118, 120, 122, 126) sts

❑ Cast on 48 (48, 49, 49, 50, 50, 51, 51) sts at beg of next two rows. 202 (206, 210, 212, 218, 220, 224, 228) sts

❑ Keeping cable and st st panels correct, and working cast-on sts in st st, cont in patt until work meas 10 (11.5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) cm from last cast-on row, ending after a WS row. Remove markers from central panel

DIVIDE FOR FRONT AND BACK

❑ Next row (RS): patt 94 (96, 98, 98, 101, 101, 103, 105), cast off 11 (11, 11, 13, 13, 15, 15, 15), patt to end. 97 (99, 101, 101, 104, 104, 106, 108) sts

Cont on this set of sts only for Back, place rem 94 (96, 98, 98, 101, 101, 103, 105) sts on waste yarn for front

❑ Keeping positioning of Cable patt correct, cont in patt until neck meas 23 (23, 24, 24.5, 25, 25.5, 26, 26.5) cm, ending after a WS row

Place back sts on waste yarn

❑ With WS facing rejoin yarn to front sts and cont in patt until front meas same as back, ending after a WS row

REJOIN FRONT AND BACK

❑ With RS facing, patt across front sts, turn, cast on 11 (11, 11, 13, 13, 15, 15, 15) sts, turn, patt across back sts. 202 (206, 210, 212, 218, 220, 224, 228) sts

❑ Keeping patt correct cont until work meas 10 (11.5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) cm from rejoin row, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SLEEVE

❑ Cast off 48 (48, 49, 49, 50, 50, 51, 51) sts at beg of next two rows. 106 (110, 112, 114, 118, 120, 122, 126) sts

❑ Cast off four sts at beg of next four rows. 90 (94, 96, 98, 102, 104, 106, 110) sts

❑ Cont without shaping until sleeve matches length between markers on first sleeve

FIRST, SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH SIZES ONLY

Keeping patt correct dec as folls at each end of every fourth row until 6 (6, 7, 7, -, -, -, -) sts rem before start of Cable patt

❑ Dec row: k2tog tbl, patt to last two sts, k2tog

Keeping patt correct dec as folls in central panel on every fourth row until four sts rem in central panel slipping markers on foll rows:

❑ Dec row: k4 (4, 5, 5, -, -, -, -), p2, work cable pattern, pm, p2, k2tog tbl, k to last st in st st section, k2tog, p2, pm, patt to end

Cont to dec on every fourth row as folls:

FIFTH, SIXTH, SEVENTH AND EIGHTH SIZES ONLY

Keeping patt correct dec as folls at each end of every [fourth row, then foll second row] until - (-, -, -, 9, 9, 10, 10) sts rem before start of Cable patt

❑ Dec row: k2tog tbl, patt to last two sts, k2tog

Keeping patt correct dec as folls in central panel on every [fourth row, then foll second] row until four sts rem in central panel

❑ Dec row: k- (-, -, -, 7, 7, 8, 8), p2, work cable pattern, pm, p2, k2tog tbl, k to last st in st st section, k2tog, p2, pm, patt to end

Cont to dec on every [fourth row, then foll second row] as folls:

ALL SIZES

Keeping order of dec rows correct, work next dec row as folls:

❑ Dec row: patt to marker, p1, [k2tog] twice, p1, patt to end

❑ Next row: patt to marker, k1, p2, k1, patt to end

❑ Cont in patt for appropriate number of rows

❑ Next dec row: patt to marker, [p2tog] twice, patt to end

❑ Next row: patt to marker, k2, patt to end

❑ Cont in patt for appropriate

Robyn is a quick knit with very little seaming



number of rows

❑ Next dec row: patt to last st before marker, sl next st, remove marker, return st to LH needle and patt2tog tbl with next st, sl next st, remove marker, return st to LH needle and patt2tog with first st of cable patt, patt to end. 52 (52, 54, 54, 58, 58, 60, 60) sts

❑ Next row: p4 (4, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8), k2, [work Cable patt] twice, k2, p4 (4, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8)

❑ Patt two more rows without shaping

❑ Next row (dec): k3 (3, 4, 4, 6, 6, 2, 2), * k2tog, k2, rep from * 11 times, k2tog, k3 (3, 4, 4, 6, 6, 1, 1). 40 (40, 42, 42, 46, 46, 48, 48) sts

Change to 5mm needles

❑ Rep Rows 1-8 of Cuff

❑ Cast off

To make up

Sew side and underarm seams

Bottom edging

Using 5mm circular needle and with RS facing pick up and p 119 (127, 133, 140, 147, 154, 161, 168) sts around bottom edge, pm and join in the rnd

❑ Rnds 1-3: p

❑ Rnds 4-5: k

❑ Rnds 6-8: p

❑ Cast off

Weave in ends and block lightly if required **LK**

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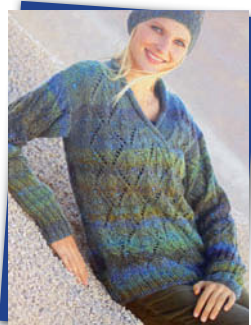
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SANTA'S little helpers

The Let's Knit Christmas elves are here to share their top tips for toys

They've been knitting, stitching, stuffing and sewing all year long! We just love making toys for Christmas, so we decided to catch up with our favourite toy designers, to find out what makes them tick. For an in-depth, two part tutorial on the techniques from LK's Val Pierce, visit www.letsknit.co.uk/blog



Val Pierce

Believe it or not when I first started

designing, toy making was the thing I hated most because of all the little bits and pieces! However the more I began to make the more I loved it. I find it quite theraputic to see a new character begin to emerge. I have such fun with them, giving each character a special look on their face. Facial features are the most difficult to achieve and take a lot of practice.

I have made many, many toys. But when you think of the animal, bird and insect

kingdoms

there are

literally

thousands of

options - it is

just hitting on the right one.

Sometimes I start knitting many times before getting it the way I want it.

When I decide on a toy I have to think whether it will be true to life or a comic likeness - and also what age range it will be aimed at. Then I have to think about the actual pattern that will need to be written for others to follow. If I made a zebra with intarsia stripes it would be a very time consuming process and only experienced knitters would be able to make it. So if I decided



You can now download the pattern to make Jason from www.letsknit.co.uk!

to make a zebra it would have to fall in the comic likeness range and have simple stripes!

Most of my toys are pretty straightforward and the average knitter won't have a

problem knitting

them. I also have to

be practical

since toys get

dirty and need to

be washed from time to time, so although I love using wonderful fashion yarns it isn't always the best choice!

"I have such fun with them, giving each character a special look"

Val's Top Tip:
Sew up your toy as you would a garment, making sure all seams are very secure. When stuffing it, look at the picture provided and try to get the shape to match. Over or under stuffing will make all the difference to the finished project.

You can find out more about Val and her work at www.crossedneedles.co.uk



You can download Klaus from www.letsknit.co.uk!



Susie Johns

I began making toys when my own

children were small. My first efforts were a Postman Pat, then a mermaid with a sparkly fishtail. Before I started designing 3D knitted and crocheted items, I spent 12 years making models from paper, card and papier maché for the children's magazine Art Attack. The experience has proved invaluable when trying to work out how to shape the head and neck of a knitted pheasant, for example, or deciding the best way to construct a frog's eyes.

If you are used to knitting jumpers or scarves, you will find that knitting toys needs a different approach. Knitting a

"Knitting toys needs a different approach"

number of different pieces for a toy is pretty straightforward. The bigger challenge comes when you join the pieces together.

Because most knitted toys are small, they are relatively quick to knit but you will need to allow extra time for making up: stitching small pieces of knitted fabric together and stuffing them requires a degree of patience and dexterity, not to mention neat stitching on the seams - but it's worth it when you see the finished result. Making a toy isn't just about knitting: it is about constructing.

Susie's Top Tip:

Take time to read through the pattern instructions before you begin, to make sure you understand what skills are required.



Susie's next toy book, Knitted Woodland Creatures, will be published next year. Visit her blog www.susieatthecircus.typepad.com to keep up with all of her knitting news!





Zoë Halstead

I used to make a lot of toys when I was a

child, both knitted and sewn, but I only really got into designing toys when I wrote my first book in 2006, *Knitted & Felted Toys*. Since then I've been asked to make lots more toys for Let's Knit, King Cole and other publishers.

My inspiration has often come from my two sons and the characters and toys that they are into, but it can come from anywhere. If I'm designing an animal toy I work out whether I'm going to make a realistic version or use

"I really enjoy the making up process"

inspiration from cartoons or book illustrations to make a stylised version. When designing dolls, I like them to be full of character!

I really enjoy the making up process; seeing the pieces come together and working on the face or features, I always do this even if someone else has knitted the pieces for me. This is when the character comes out and, hopefully, matches up with my original idea!

I find making sure the

instructions result in a well-shaped toy to be my biggest challenge, such as using short-row knitting to shape a particular animal characteristic. I usually overcome it by knitting lots of samples and looking at other toys I've already designed.

Zoë's Top Tip: *There can sometimes be lots of knitted pieces, some of which can look very similar to each other! Label each piece as you knit it to help with making up. Spend lots of time finishing off the toy as this will make a huge difference to how it looks.*



Try Zoe's Christmas Knits pattern book by King Cole, 01707 331777, www.zipsnclips.com



Amanda Berry

Translating a character into a knitted toy can be interesting. I

start with a sketch - I doodle cartoon animals and then translate that into the finished design. Sometimes it works! I try to pick out maybe two or three elements of the animal that define it. A robin has a red tummy and little yellow legs for example, so if you added those elements to a 3D shape, it should look like a robin.

It can be hard coming up with different ideas. There are so many teddy bear patterns that look very similar, for example. I usually get inspiration from other sources:

from cartoons, to ads on the Tube! Anything that makes me smile or laugh!

If you were designing your first ever toy, the easiest way to start is to make something flat, like a fish, where you have two sides that you sew together around the edges. Draw the shape of the toy on knitter's graph paper, and work out from there how many stitches and

"Take your time and have plenty of cups of tea"

rows you need, and where to increase and decrease. 3D shapes like spheres or cylinders get a bit more tricky, but if you knit a cylindrical shape, add some stuffing and sew on some big eyes, you almost have an owl! Be patient when sewing toys together; after all that hard work, you don't want to ruin your toy with poor seams. Take your time, and have plenty of cups of tea to hand!

Amanda's Top Tip: *I have a dollmaking sewing needle, which is really long, and handy for adding arms and legs, as you can sew straight through the body to make the limbs jointed.*

Visit www.fluffandfuzzknitting.wordpress.com for more of Amanda's toys!

MORE KITS AND IDEAS!



We love these adorable farmyard patterns from King Cole! Get all three for £2.50 from www.yarnpile.co.uk, pattern number 7000



Cuddly Knitted Animals by Caprice Birker is a wonderful collection of quirky characters, from an elephant to a unicorn. The book costs £9.99 from 01892 510 850, www.searchpress.com



Douglas dog is a fantastic knitted friend from Twilleys of Stamford. Get the kit (number 2898-0006) for £14.40 from 07974 954663, www.awoollytail.com



Using Sirdar Snuggly DK, the Baby Crofter Bunny will make a wonderful friend for a young child. Grab the pattern (number 1456) from www.mcadirect.com for £2.50



Ruth Chester

When I was about seven or eight I knitted a

panda from a pattern shown on Blue Peter. It was knitted in garter stitch and I nagged my granny to help me for days.

Now, at The Little Knitting Company, we love designing small and accessible projects; our six and eight inch long knitting needles are perfect for these.

"Creating faces is always such fun"

The best thing about toys is that they are small and tactile. For a beginner there is a real sense of achievement, and the joy they can bring to children is a huge reward. Creating faces is always such fun; the difference the placement of a stitch makes is amazing.

The inspiration for our Juggling Santas kit came from a childhood soft toy, and I asked popular knitwear designer Siân Brown to help. Incidentally, they don't have to be juggled - they can be



Buy the Juggling Santas kit from 01367 710362, www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk

Ruth's Top Tip:

Take your time, read the pattern, don't over-think. Sometimes instructions don't appear to make sense but when you follow them, the penny drops. We often recommend a firm or cable cast on for small pieces as this adds stability.

stuffed instead. Since the Santas were created we have added to the range, including a hedgehog, speckled hen and pig. More are on the way, including an owl, cow and duck - a real farmyard in the making!

Being nominated for the British Knitting Awards was extremely flattering. To win was an unexpected and

wonderful surprise. My family and friends have worked very hard with me over the last five or so years and this is a huge accolade.

Ruth is the owner and founder of The Little Knitting Company, and winner of the British Knitting Awards Best Ready-to-Use Kits. www.thelittleknittingcompany.co.uk



I started mainly with accessories like scarves and cowl. I then designed a little mouse with some leftover yarn and made him into a kit for The Knitting and Stitching Show at Ally Pally. The mice sold so well that I ran out of the discontinued yarn I had used! Thanks to a friend of mine who

"I do seem able to look at a ball of wool and see a chicken"

knitted the mouse in Angora, I changed the kit to two Angora mice in Christmas Stockings. This is one of the things that Search Press spotted on my stand before asking me to write a book. I love to use unusual yarns that you wouldn't necessarily think of for a toy and I think it adds so much to the design.

The process is quite well organised (for me). I start with a sketch, knitted

swatches and then start knitting and re-knitting until it looks exactly how I want it to. I use a lined A4 notebook for my pattern writing and I always start on the right-hand side of the right-hand page in a column and then work left. I'm not sure why but it does seem to work for me!

Sue's Top Tip:

One way to customise safety eyes is to paint them with metallic nail polish on the backs. This really helps the eyes shine out, especially if you are using them on a dark yarn.



Sue's latest book, Merry Christmas Knits, is available from her website www.theknittinghut.co.uk

SHOPPING BASKET

Try some of these great yarns and accessories, all perfect for toy knitting



Cygnet Superwash Pure Merino DK costs £2.40 per 50g (104m) ball from 01279 771153, www.modernknitting.co.uk

You can find a wide range of buttons from 07974 954663, www.awoollytail.com



Peter Pan DK costs £2.48 per 50g (170m) from 01803 524402, www.knittingwooland yarn.co.uk

Hemline Wool and Yarn Hand Needles cost £1.25. For stockists, call 01453 883581 or email crafts@stockistenquiries.co.uk



Stylecraft Special DK costs £1.75 per 100g (295m) from www.thewoolloft.co.uk



Safety toy stuffing costs £3.33 per 250g from 0845 5760 007, www.loveknitting.com

King Cole Dollymix costs £0.75 per 25g (73m) ball from 0115 947 4239, www.knitnottingham.co.uk



Choose from lots of safety eyes at www.purplelinda crafts.co.uk





The Toy Collection

Here's a guide to stores that offer all toy knitting essentials.... to knit that something special!



Yarn Pile

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Stocking a selection of yarns and patterns perfect for your toy projects including New Fashion DK!

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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE KIDS PATTERN

Prancer is a cosy pair of Santa *slipper socks*

There is nothing worse in winter than chilly toes and cold ankles, but Prancer is the perfect solution for your little ones. Designed by the magnificent Val Pierce, these snugly slipper socks provide comfort and warmth, and look rather outstanding. The cheerful Santa face will be a constant reminder that Christmas is just around the corner, and will have your children super-excited for the magical day (as if they weren't excited enough already).

START KNITTING ON P46

SUPER
STOCKING
FILLER

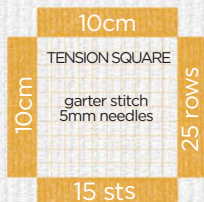


MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Size: to fit age 3-5 yrs
Height: approx 23cm
Leg width: 12cm
Foot length: 17cm
Foot width: approx 9cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Sirdar Hayfield Bonus Chunky, (A) shade 977 Signal Red, one 100g ball, (B) shade 965 Black, one 100g ball, (C) Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake Chunky, shade 630 Milky, two 25g balls, oddments of red and pink DK
Needles: 4mm, 5mm



ABOUT THE YARN

Sirdar Hayfield Bonus Chunky is great for children's knits. It's cost-effective, machine washable, and you're able to tumble dry it – perfect!

Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake Chunky is a fleecy, 100% polyester yarn. It's exceptionally cosy, and is also machine washable.

Need an alternative yarn?

Debbie Bliss Rialto Chunky is a beautiful 100% wool yarn. It comes in a great range of wintry colours. **King Cole Cuddles Chunky** is a soft yarn made of 100% polyester. It is available in single and multi-colours, and is machine washable.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Sirdar Hayfield Bonus Chunky costs £1.89 per 100g (137m) ball and Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake Chunky costs £1.95 per 25g (62m) ball from 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com



Debbie Bliss Rialto Chunky costs £4.99 per 50g (60m) ball from 01926 882818, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



King Cole Cuddles Chunky costs £2.95 per 50g (125m) ball from 01924 565740, www.woolnstuff.co.uk



START KNITTING HERE

Upper (make two)

Using 5mm needles and yarn C, cast on 31 sts

- Work six rows in garter st
- Change to yarn A, cont in garter st for 32 rows
- Divide for foot as folls:
 - Next row: k20, turn
 - Next row: k9, turn
 - Cont in garter st on these centre nine sts for a further 20 rows, cut yarn
 - Rejoin yarn to sts on RH needle, pick up and k9 sts up right side of foot, k across toe sts, pick up and k9 sts down

left side of foot, then k across rem 11 sts on LH needle. 47 sts

- Work 13 rows in garter st

DECREASE FOR FOOT

- Next row: k2, k2tog, k15, k2tog, k7, k2tog, k15, k2tog, k2
- Next row: k
- Next row: k2, k2tog, k13, k2tog, k7, k2tog, k13, k2tog, k2
- Next row: k
- Next row: k2, k2tog, k11, k2tog, k7, k2tog, k11, k2tog, k2
- Next row: k
- Next row: k2, k2tog, k9, k2tog, k7, k2tog, k9, k2tog, k2
- Cast off



"If your little one can't bear to watch these cosy socks be stashed away in the new year, why not make plain ones in a different colour for year-round use?"

LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER



Sole (make two)

- NOTE:** worked entirely in garter stitch
- Using 5mm needles and yarn B, cast on six sts
- K one row
 - Inc one st at each end of next and foll alt rows to 14 sts
 - Work eight rows
 - Dec one st at each end of next row. 12 sts
 - Work six rows
 - Inc one st at each end of next row. 14 sts
 - Work 12 rows
 - Dec one st at each end of next and foll alt rows until eight sts rem
 - Cast off

Santa face (make two)

- NOTE:** begin with beard
- Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on ten sts
- K two rows
 - Inc one st at each end of next and foll alt row. 14 sts
 - K eight rows
 - Change to oddment of pink DK
 - Work ten rows in st st
 - Cut pink and join in yarn C
 - Work four rows in garter st cut yarn C, join in oddments of red DK
 - Work six rows in st st
 - Dec one st at each end of next and foll alt row until four sts rem
 - Join in yarn C
 - Next row: kfb in every st
 - Beg with a p row, work nine rows in st st
 - Next row: k2tog across row. Four sts
 - Cast off

knitwise

IN A NUTSHELL: These slippers are constructed similarly to a typical baby's bootie pattern. Starting at the top you work the leg section first. You then work solely on the centre nine stitches to create the top of the foot. Don't worry, the pattern has simple instructions for how to do this! Your last row of this section will be the toe. Stitches are then picked up along each side of the foot to pull the slipper into shape.

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Nose

Using 4mm needles and oddment of pink DK, cast on four sts

- ☐ Next row: p
- ☐ Next row: kfb in each st to end. Eight sts
- ☐ Beg with a p row work five rows st st
- ☐ K2tog across row. Four sts
- ☐ Cast off

To make up


Sew back and foot seam of slipper. Take a sole and pin in

place to base of slipper. Sew around outer edge, repeat on other slipper. Weave in ends on Santa face. Fold top section on hat into ball shape and secure with a few stitches. Roll nose section into a ball and secure, then sew to face just above beard. Embroider eyes with black yarn. Pin face and hat section to front of slipper, sew in place taking care not to sew through both thicknesses of slipper. Repeat for other slipper **LK**



"These slippers are for use on carpet only. If you wish, you can add squiggles of puffer paint to the soles to give grip, then they will be safer for wooden or tile floors."

LK DESIGNER VAL PIERCE



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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE BABY PATTERN

Thumper is a charming little *bunny balaclava* for your tot

How best to keep your little munchin's ears warm? Knit them the cutest bunny balaclava ever! Jane Burns is an expert when it comes to children's knits, and she knows just how to keep them from protesting against their winter-wear. Thumper is simply adorable, and we think your little darlings will become rather attached to their new novelty hat. You could have a fight on your hands come spring-time; when the winter knits get stashed away!

AGES
2-7
YEARS!



START KNITTING ON P50

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Age: 2-7 yrs

To fit head: 45-50cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Stylecraft Life DK, shade 2314 Barley Marl, one 100g ball

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

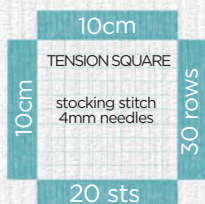
Cotton fabric, fat quarter

Iron-on interfacing

Sewing thread and needle

Buttons: one, flower

Press stud, plastic



ABOUT THE YARN

Stylecraft Life DK is a gentle mix of 75% acrylic and 25% wool. It is available in an extensive range of colours including mixtures and marl effects, and is machine washable.

Need an alternative yarn?

Patons Wool Blend DK is made of 63% wool, and 37% acrylic. It comes in a range of warm shades, and is great for winter knits!

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Stylecraft Life DK costs £2.99 per 100g (298m) ball from 01926 882818, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

Patons Wool Blend DK costs £4.49 per 100g (250m) from 0800 488 0708, www.deramores.com

10% off

For 10% off all orders from Deramores, turn to page 35



"Why not use some festive-inspired fabric for the inner ears to give Thumper a hint of Christmas magic?"

LK DEPUTY EDITOR
ADRIENNE CHANDLER

START KNITTING HERE

Hat

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 122 sts

□ Row 1: * k1, p1, rep from * to end

□ Row 2: * p1, k1, rep from * to end
These two rows form moss st

□ Rep Rows 1-2 four more times

□ Row 11: moss st 18 sts and sl onto st holder, k7, m1, k15, (m1, k14) three times, m1, k15, m1, k7, sl 18 sts onto holder. 92 sts

□ Beg with a p row, work 29 rows in st st

BACK

□ Cast off 30 sts, k to last 30 sts, cast off rem 30 sts. 32 sts

□ With RS facing, rejoin yarn at inner edge to rem 32 sts

□ Beg with a k row work, 39 rows in st st

□ Cast off

With RS facing, sew cast-off side edges of front to corresponding back edge

NECK

□ With RS facing, sl 18 sts from first holder on to 3.25mm needles, rejoin yarn, pick up and k 62 sts evenly around bottom neck edge of hat, moss st across rem 18 sts on holder. 98 sts

□ Cont working in moss st as set, work 18 rows

□ Cast off

Ears (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn held double throughout, cast on 12 sts

□ Beg with a k row, work 22 rows in st st

□ Row 23: k2, m1, k to last two sts, m1, k2. 14 sts

□ Row 24, and all WS rows: p

□ Row 25: rep Row 23. 16 sts

□ Rows 27-36: work in st st

□ Row 37: rep Row 23. 18 sts

□ Row 39: rep Row 23. 20 sts

□ Rows 41-50: work in st st

□ Rows 51, 53, 55, 57, 59: k2, ssk, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2. 10 sts

□ Cast off

To make up

Iron interfacing to back of cotton fabric, cut out two Ear inserts. Sew fabric inserts to wrong side of Ears. Fold ears in half with fabric sides facing, and stitch in place along cast-on edge. Using photo as guide, stitch Ears to head of hat. Sew plastic press stud to corner of collar, sew on button **LK**



See the Knitwise panel for an explanation of the hat's construction

knitwise

LET'S BREAK IT DOWN: The ears are knitted separately but the hat part of Thumper is knitted all in one piece. The pattern starts at the front with a moss stitch rim and a main section of stocking stitch. Stitches are then cast off on either side of the central 32 stitches which are worked to create a strip. This forms the back of the hat. The cast-off edges are joined to either side of this strip and a moss stitch neck section is then worked around the lower edge.

coming next issue

ADORABLE SCANDI-STYLE BABY DRESS BY JULIE FERGUSON

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knit PICKS

Hot products, ideas
and more!



Say it loud

We love these slogan crochet hooks by For the Love of Yarn. They read "I'm a Happy Hooker" and "I'm Yarned and Dangerous" and come in sizes 3mm to 5.5mm. They'd make a great gift for your fellow crochet fans or fun addition to your own hook stash. The hooks cost £6.50 each from Sconch Textiles, call **01376 743123** or go to www.sconchtextiles.co.uk



Scandi style

We've been really inspired by intricate colourwork this month and this striking top-down sweater from Mirasol (pattern M5025) is sure to be a hit. For stockists call **01535 664222** or visit www.designeryarns.uk.com

Pamper package

As much as we love our favourite hobby, knitting can dry out your hands. That's why we're perfectly entitled to treat ourselves to lovely moisturisers, like these from Bronnley. This hand and nail cream has extracts of honey and royal jelly and is fragranced with honey blossom. £8.75, **01908 686880**, www.bronnley.co.uk



Ideal for storing your little knitting accessories, Chiaogoo's Tiny Tools aluminium cases are available in six pretty colours. £3.99, 01665 606062, www.paviyarns.co.uk



Cadbury's Christmas range is adorned with pretty knitting prints! Tuck in to these yummy biscuits, £5.95, www.cadburysgiftsdirect.co.uk

Fancy footwear

These snugly socks are just one of the designs from the new Artesano DK pattern collection. Knitted in 100% alpaca yarn, they're perfect for keeping cosy on cold winter nights! www.artesanoyarns.co.uk



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New! Fleur Scarf Knitting Kit in luxury Chilla Valley Alpaca! With a choice of five colours to choose from the kit includes the yarn and pattern in one of our hot pink project bags for only £12.50!

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The Wool Loft

We are a small business based in Lincolnshire, specialising in quality and unusual yarns. We also produce and sell many knitted and crocheted items as well as providing kits for you to create your own!

The Wool Loft was begun in January 2011 and since then we have expanded into stocking a huge variety of yarn, from notable brands such as Stylecraft, Artesano, Rico, and Crystal Palace Yarns.

Our first batch of Lincoln Longwool came back from the mill September 2012, which has been grown, washed, spun and wound all in Lincolnshire.

www.thewoolloft.co.uk

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE GARMENT PATTERN

Belle is an elegant lace *panel sweater* by *Anniken Allis*

With a beautiful diamond stitch pattern, Belle is ideal for dressing up jeans, or combining with a pretty dress in complementary colours. And why not add some beaded jewellery to complete the look? The garment is worked in the round to the underarm, before the front and back are split and worked separately to the shoulders. These are then joined and stitches are picked up around the armholes. The sleeve caps are shaped using short rows.

START KNITTING ON P54

**TRY NEW
TECHNIQUES!**

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Dress size (approx):

8 (10-12, 14-16, 18-20)

To fit (cm):

81 (86-91, 97-102, 102-112)

Actual chest (cm):

84 (95, 106, 117)

Length (cm):

58 (60, 61.5, 63.5)

KNIT KIT

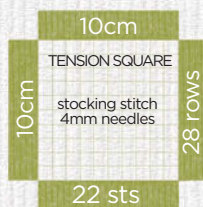
Yarn: Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK, shade 357 Tiffany, 10 (11, 12, 14) 50g (116m) balls

Needles: 4mm circular (100cm, 40cm)

Stitch holders

Scrap yarn

Stitch markers



ABOUT THE YARN

Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK is a beautiful yarn in a wide range of solid shades. It is made up of 75% merino wool, 20% silk and 5% merino. It is machine washable at 30°C.

Need an alternative yarn?

For a lighter option, try **King Cole Cottonsoft DK**, a 100% cotton yarn. Try shade 713 lilac to match.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

Working wraps tog with st (on a k row): Sl st to RH needle, lift wrap on to LH needle, return st on LH needle, k2tog

Working wraps tog with st (on a p row): Insert RH needle pwise into st, then into wrap, p2tog

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK costs £5 per 50g (116m) ball from 01279 771153, www.modernknitting.co.uk

King Cole Cottonsoft DK costs £3.55 per 100g (210m) ball from 0845 003 0775, www.wool4less.co.uk



Stitch pattern (written instructions)

NOTE: patt rep between square brackets

□ Rnd 1: k1, [yfwd, ssk, k7, k2tog, yfwd, k1]

□ Rnd 2 and all even rnds: k

□ Rnd 3: k1, [k1, yfwd, ssk, k5, k2tog, yfwd, k2]

□ Rnd 5: k1, [k2, yfwd, ssk, k3, k2tog, yfwd, k3]

□ Rnd 7: k1, [(k2tog, yfwd, k1, yfwd, ssk, k1) twice]

□ Rnd 9: k2tog, [(yfwd, k3, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso) twice], finish last patt rep ssk instead of sl 1, k2tog, psso

□ Rnd 11: k1, [k3, k2tog, yfwd, k1, yfwd, ssk, k4]

□ Rnd 13: k1, [k2, k2tog, yfwd, k3, yfwd, ssk, k3]

□ Rnd 15: k1, [k1, k2tog, yfwd, k5, yfwd, ssk, k2]

□ Rnd 17: k1, [(k2tog, yfwd, k1, yfwd, ssk, k1) twice]

□ Rnd 19: k2tog, [(yfwd, k3, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso) twice], finish last patt rep ssk instead of sl 1, k2tog, psso

Rnds 1-19 set patt

START KNITTING HERE

Body

Using 4mm (100cm) circular needle, cast on 186 (210, 234, 258) sts, pm after 93 (105, 117, 129) sts, pm, join in the rnd

□ Work five rnds in garter st

□ Rnd 1: k10 (16, 16, 22), pm, work Rnd 1 of patt 6 (6, 7, 7) times, pm, k10 (16, 16, 22), sm, k10 (16, 16, 22), pm, k73 (73, 85, 85), pm, k to end of rnd, sm

□ Rnd 2: k10 (16, 16, 22), sm, work next rnd of patt 6 (6, 7, 7) times, sm, k10 (16, 16, 22), sm, k10 (16, 16, 22), sm, k73 (73, 85, 85), sm, k to end of rnd, sm

Rnd 2 sets patt

□ Work ten rnds in patt

SHAPE WAIST

□ Next rnd: k to two sts before marker, k2tog, sm, work patt as set, sm, ssk, k to marker, sm, k to two sts before marker, k2tog, sm, k to marker, sm, ssk, k to end. Four sts dec

□ Work five rnds in patt without shaping

□ Rep last six rnds five more times. 162 (186, 210, 234) sts

□ Next rnd: k to marker, m1, sm, work Chart as set, sm, m1, k to marker, sm, k to marker, m1, sm, k to marker, sm, m1, k to end. 166 (190, 214, 238) sts

KEY

last st of patt rep: ssk

knit

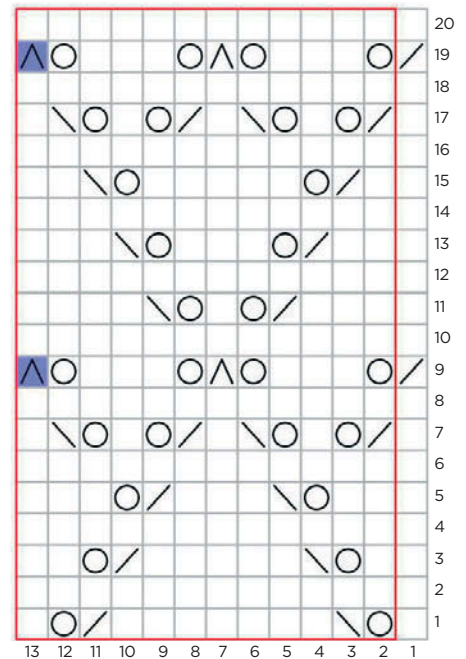
yfwd

k2tog

ssk

sl1, k2tog, psso

pattern repeat



□ Work seven rnds without shaping. Rep last eight rnds five more times. 186 (210, 234, 258) sts

□ Work without shaping until body meas 40.5 (41.5, 41.5, 42.5) cm ending after an even-numbered rnd

Place Front sts on holder or waste yarn

Back

Reattach yarn ready to work a RS row. 93 (105, 117, 129)

SHAPE ARMHOLE

□ Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7) sts at beg of next two rows. 85 (95, 105, 115) sts

□ Next row (RS): k2, ssk, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2. 83 (93, 103, 113) sts

□ Next row (WS): p2, p2tog, p to last four sts, p2tog tbl, p2. 81 (91, 101, 111) sts

□ Rep last two rows 0 (0, 1, 2) more times. 81 (91, 97, 103) sts

□ Cont to dec on RS rows only 2 (2, 2, 3) more times. 77 (87, 93, 97) sts

□ Work in st st until Back meas 57 (59, 60.5, 62.5) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RIGHT NECK

□ Next row (RS): k21 (26, 28, 30) turn

□ Next row: p1, p2tog, p to end. 20 (25, 27, 29) sts

□ Next row: k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 19 (24, 26, 28) sts

SHAPE RIGHT SHOULDER

□ Next row (WS): p13 (16, 18, 20), w&t

□ Next row: k to end

□ Next row: p7 (8, 9, 10), w&t

□ Next row: k to end

□ Next row: p to end working wraps tog with st

Place sts on holder

SHAPE LEFT NECK

Place centre 35 (35, 37, 37) sts on holder, k to end. 21 (26, 28, 30) sts

□ Next row (WS): p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 20 (25, 27, 29) sts

□ Next row: k1, ssk, k to end. 19 (24, 26, 28) sts

□ Next row: p to end

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

□ Next row (RS): k13 (16, 18, 20), w&t

□ Next row: p to end

□ Next row: k7 (8, 9, 10), w&t

□ Next row: p to end

□ Next row: k to end working wraps tog with st

Place sts on holder

Front

Reattach yarn ready to work a RS row

□ Cast off 4 (5, 6, 7) sts at beg



"Take care to ensure that the tension remains the same when switching from knitting in the round to knitting flat."

LK DESIGNER ANNIKEN ALLIS

“Remember to block your sweater before working the neckband to even out your stitches and get the lace section looking its best.”



LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS

knitwise

PICK N MIX: The sleeves are worked by picking up stitches from the edges of your knitting, and then shaped using short rows. To pick up and knit stitches, insert the RH needle into the centre of the stitch on the first row, wrap the yarn around the needle as if to knit, then pull the yarn up through the stitch. Continue this action until all of your stitches are on the RH needle. The sleeve caps' short rows are achieved using a technique called wrap and turn (w&t). Head to page 82 where Deputy Editor Adrienne demonstrates!

of next two rows. 85 (95, 105, 115) sts

□ Next row: k2, ssk, work in patt to last four sts, k2tog, k2. 83 (93, 103, 113) sts

□ Next row: p2, p2tog, p to last four sts, p2tog tbl, p2. 81 (91, 101, 111) sts

□ Rep last two rows 0 (0, 1, 2) more times. 81 (91, 97, 103) sts

□ Cont to dec on RS rows only 2 (2, 2, 3) more times. 77 (87, 93, 97) sts

□ Work in patt until Front meas 46 (47, 47.5, 48) cm ending after a WS row

SHAPE LEFT NECK

□ Next row (RS): work in patt for 23 (28, 30, 32) sts, turn, place rem sts on holder

□ Next row: p1, p2tog, p to end. 22 (27, 29, 31) sts

□ Next row: work in patt to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 21 (26, 28, 30) sts

□ Rep last two rows once more. 19 (24, 26, 28) sts

□ Work in patt until left Front matches Back to shoulder shaping, ending after a RS row

SHAPE LEFT SHOULDER

□ Next row: p13 (16, 18, 20), w&t

□ Next row: k

□ Next row: p7 (8, 9, 10), w&t

□ Next row: k

□ Next row: p to end working wraps tog with st
Place sts on holder

SHAPE RIGHT NECK

Reattach yarn at neck edge, leaving 31 (31, 33, 33) sts on holder at centre front

□ Next row: work in patt to end. 23 (28, 30, 32) sts

□ Next row: p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 22 (27, 29, 31) sts

□ Next row: k1, ssk, work in patt to end. 21 (26, 28, 30) sts

□ Next row: rep last two rows once more. 19 (24, 26, 28) sts

□ Work in patt until right Front matches Back to shoulder shaping, ending after a WS row

SHAPE RIGHT SHOULDER

□ Next row: k13 (16, 18, 20), w&t

□ Next row: p

□ Next row: k7 (8, 9, 10), w&t

□ Next row: p

□ Next row: k to end working wraps tog with st
Place sts on holder

Sleeves

Join shoulders, working a three-needle cast off

□ Using a 4mm (40cm) circular needle, and starting from halfway point of underarm, pick up and k 4 (5, 6, 7) sts from underarm cast off, 30 (32, 35, 37) sts to shoulder, 30 (32, 35, 37) sts to underarm cast off, 4 (5, 6, 7) from underarm cast off, pm, join to work in the rnd. 68 (74, 82, 88) sts

□ Row 1: k45 (49, 55, 59), w&t. 11 (12, 14, 15) sts past shoulder point

□ Row 2: p22 (24, 28, 30), w&t. 11 (12, 14, 15) sts past shoulder point

□ Row 3: k to wrapped st, work wrap tog with st, k1, w&t

□ Row 4: p to wrapped st, work wrap tog with st, p1, w&t

□ Rep last two rows until only underarm sts rem

□ K across underarm sts to marker

Beg to k in the rnd

□ Work ten rounds in st st

□ Next rnd: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1

□ Work 7 (6, 5, 5) rnds in st st

□ Rep last 8 (7, 6, 6) rnds 11 (13, 15, 16) more times. 44 (46, 50, 54) sts

□ Work in st st until Sleeve meas 42 (43, 43.5, 44.5) cm from underarm

□ Next rnd: p

□ Next rnd: k

□ Rep last two rnds once more

□ Cast off pwise

Block sweater to measurements

Neckband

Using a 4mm (100cm) circular needle and starting at the left shoulder with RS facing, pick up and k 30 (32, 34, 36) sts to Front neck, k31 (31, 33, 33) sts from Front neck, pick up and k 30 (32, 34, 36) sts to right shoulder, five sts to back neck, k35 (35, 37, 37) sts from Back neck, pick up and k five sts to left shoulder. 136 (140, 148, 152) sts

Join to work in the rnd

□ Starting with a p rnd, work four rnds in garter st

□ Cast off pwise

Weave in loose ends **LK**



*coming
nextissue*

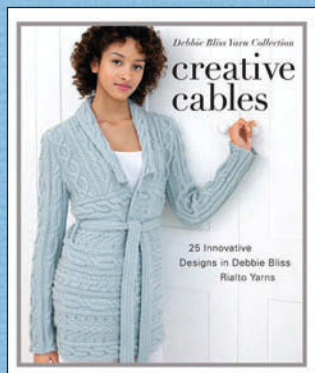
STYLISH COWL NECK
SWEATER BY ANNIKEN ALLIS

On sale 20th December



THE Bookshelf

Our pick of this month's best knitty books, blogs and more



Creative Cables

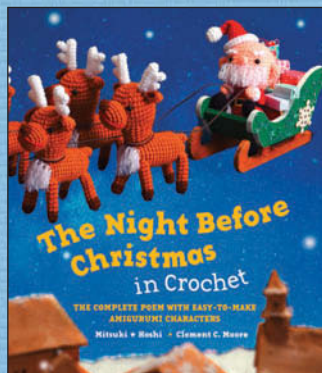


Debbie Bliss Yarn Collection
(£17.99, Sixth & Spring)

The latest Debbie Bliss collection features 25 beautiful cable projects by several talented designers, including Melissa Leapman and Mari Lynn Patrick. The book is exquisite, and includes patterns for all the family. While the bright and cheerful kids' knits will be great ways to practise cabling if you're new to the technique, it is the detailed and intricate womenswear that really shines through.



01273 488005 www.thegmcgroup.com



The Night Before Christmas in Crochet

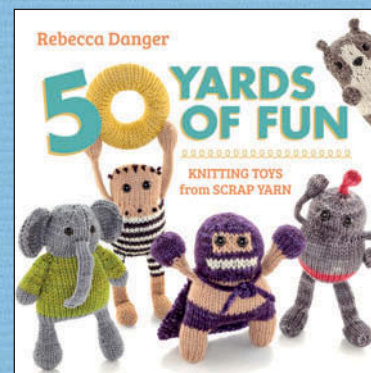


Mitsuki Hoshi and Clement C. Moore
(£10.99, Harper Collins)

Half picture book, half craft book, *The Night Before Christmas in Crochet* is a truly fantastic idea. Written out in full, Clement C. Moore's classic Yuletide poem is illustrated with handmade amigurumi characters, lovingly designed by Mitsuki. The second half of the book then shows you how to make the figures yourself, so you can act out the poem in your own home. However, make sure that you are comfortable with crochet charts, as there are no written instructions.



08445 768120, www.harpercollins.co.uk



50 Yards of Fun



Rebecca Danger
(£10.49, Martingale)

Almost all knitters know of the temptation to hold on to leftover scraps of yarn. We can't bear to throw them away, but there's not enough to start something new! Rebecca has come to the rescue, with over 30 brilliant toys – each bursting with character, despite only using roughly 50 yards (45m) of yarn. Best of all, the book uses five basic body shapes, meaning that once you've mastered those, you can start adapting the patterns yourself – making the possibilities endless!



PHOTO: BRENT KANE

01273 603717, www.roundhousegroup.co.uk



Did You Make That?
www.didyoumakethat.wordpress.com

With a witty writing style and fantastic fashion sense, Karen Ball is a knitter, stitcher and crocheter. Her delightful blog showcases her beautiful pieces, and her dog, Ella.



Knit Keeper
Thorcode

Available for iTunes, Knit Keeper is a handy app which allows you to keep track of all of your yarn, needles and projects all in one place, so you can always know what's waiting at home!



KEY:



Book



Website



Podcast



Blog



App



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORY PATTERN

Echo is a striped *mitten set* with a pretty *buttoned edge*

Charlotte Walford's mittens are pretty and practical, with a complementary colour scheme which uses two luxurious yarns. The wool and silk blend of Manos del Uruguay Fino provides a strong base for the pattern, while Rowan Kidsilk Haze echoes back its stripes with a soft and delicate touch. The stylish buttons are sewn on to a faux placket with a picot cast off, adding a modern twist.

START KNITTING ON P58

QUICK
TO KNIT!

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Size (approx):

Small-Medium (Medium-Large)

To fit hand circumference:

15-18cm (18-21cm)

KNIT KIT

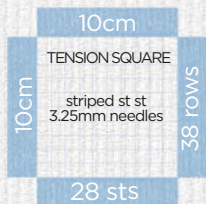
Yarn: (A) Manos Del Uruguay Fino, shade 2630 Aster, one 50g skein, (B) Rowan Kidsilk Haze, shade 659

Ultra, one 25g ball

Needles: 3.25mm

Stitch holders: two

Buttons: 10mm, Mother of Pearl, square, ten



ABOUT THE YARN

Manos del Uruguay Fino is a subtly variegated 70% merino wool and 30% silk blend, creating a beautiful 4ply yarn. However, take care, as the mittens will be handwash only.

Since its release, **Rowan Kidsilk Haze** has become a modern classic. The soft 70% mohair and 30% silk blend creates a light and fluffy yarn.

Need an alternative yarn?

Artesano 4ply is a wonderfully soft 100% alpaca yarn in 22 strong solid shades. Try 7609 Paraguay to match yarn A.

Debbie Bliss Angel combines 76% mohair with 24% silk to create a similarly fluffy lightweight yarn. Try shade 18 lilac to match.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Manos del Uruguay Fino costs £8.10 per 50g (180m) skein and **Rowan Kidsilk Haze** costs £8.80 per 25g (210m) ball from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com

Artesano 4ply

costs £5.45 per 50g (184m) skein from 01803 524402, www.knittingwooland yarn.co.uk

Debbie Bliss

Angel costs £7.95 per 25g (200m) ball from 01787 249865, www.cafeknit.com



START KNITTING HERE

Right mitten

EDGING

Using yarn A, cast on 49 (59) sts
 □ Row 1 (RS): k2, yfwd, * k5, sl fourth, third, second and first of these sts over fifth, yfwd, rep from * to last two sts, k2. 23 (27) sts

□ Row 2: p2, * [p1, yon, k1 tbl] into yfwd of Row 1, p1, rep from * to last st, p1. 43 (51) sts

□ Row 3: * k3, k1 tbl, rep from * to last three sts, k3

□ Row 4: p

□ Using yarn B and beg with a k row, work six rows in st st

□ Using yarn A and beg with a k row, work six rows in st st

□ These last 12 rows form stripe sequence. Cont in stripe sequence throughout, work 16 (12) more rows without shaping

THUMB SHAPING

□ Row 1 (RS): k21 (25), M1L, k1, M1R, k21 (25). 45 (53) sts

□ Row 2 and foll even-numbered rows: cont in stripe sequence, p

□ Row 3: k21 (25), M1L, k3, M1R, k21 (25). 47 (55) sts

□ Row 5: k21 (25), M1L, k5, M1R, k21 (25). 49 (57) sts

□ Row 7: k21 (25), M1L, k7, M1R,

k21 (25). 51 (59) sts

□ Row 9: k21 (25), M1L, k9, M1R, k21 (25). 53 (61) sts

□ Row 11: k21 (25), M1L, k11, M1R, k21 (25). 55 (63) sts

□ Row 13: k21 (25), M1L, k13, M1R, k21 (25). 57 (65) sts

SECOND SIZE ONLY

□ Row 15: k- (25), M1L, k- (15), M1R, k- (25). - (67) sts

□ Row 17: k- (25), M1L, k- (17), M1R, k- (25). - (69) sts

BOTH SIZES

□ Next row: p

DIVIDE FOR THUMB

□ Row 1 (RS): k36 (44), turn, leave rem 21 (25) sts on a holder

□ Row 2: cast on two sts using cable method, p17 (21) sts (incl cast-on sts), turn, leave rem 21 (25) sts on holder

THUMB

□ Row 3: cast on two sts using cable method, k19 (23) sts (incl cast-on sts)

□ Cont with stripe sequence as set, work nine rows

□ Using yarn B, cast off loosely Fold last stripe of yarn B to back of work behind last stripe of yarn A, so that cast-off edge is level with top of previous stripe of yarn B. Using yarn B, sl st the cast-off edge to top of this stripe, creating a lined hem. Sew Thumb seam using yarn A, but do not sew in yarn tail.

HAND

□ Rejoin yarn A at left-hand

side of base of Thumb and k21 (25) sts from left holder

□ Turn work, p21 (25), pick up and p two sts from base of thumb, p21 (25) sts from rem holder. 44 (52) sts

□ Next row: k21 (25), k2tog, k21 (25). 43 (51) sts

□ Work 21 more rows without shaping in stripe sequence.

□ Using yarn B, cast off loosely Fold last stripe of yarn B to back of work behind last stripe of yarn A, so that cast-off edge is level with top of last stripe of yarn B. Using yarn B, sl st cast-off edge to top of this stripe, creating a cosy lined hem.

Using yarn tail from Thumb seam, close up any small holes where thumb joins to main body of mitten, taking care not to interrupt stripe pattern. **

MAKE FAUX PLACKET

Using yarn A, pick up and k 48 sts down right-hand edge of mitten

knitwise

EARN YOUR STRIPES: Echo uses a six-row stripe pattern throughout. Instead of cutting the yarn after each stripe, carry it up the side of your work, taking care not to pull it too tight and crossing it with the working yarn at the start of every right-side row. But don't worry – the yarn carried up the side will be hidden in the seam and will not be visible in the finished mittens.





□ Beg with a WS row, work five rows in garter st
Work picot cast off as folls:
□ Cast off two sts * sl st from RH needle back to LH needle, cast on two sts, cast off four sts, rep from * to last st, cast off this last st

Left mitten

Work as given for right mitten to ** then work faux placket as folls:
□ Using yarn A, pick up and k 48 sts down left-hand edge of mitten and starting with a WS row, work five rows in garter st
Work picot cast off as folls:
□ Cast off two sts * sl st from RH needle back to LH needle, cast on two sts, cast off four sts * rep from * to last st, cast off this last st

To make up

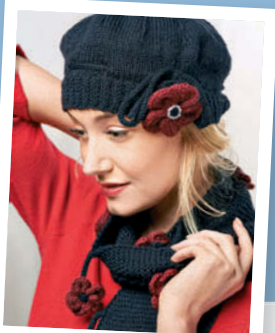
Sew five buttons on to faux plackets so that each button is level with a stripe of yarn B,


spacing buttons evenly. Slip stitch mittens closed, stitching right edge of left mitten and left edge of right mitten to underside of plackets just below cast off, so that picot cast off just overlaps and covers seam. Weave in all ends securely and neatly on wrong side **LK**

coming next issue

**BERET AND SCARF SET BY
CHARMAINE FLETCHER**

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TEA Break

Put down your knitting and indulge in some Christmas spirit with the LK community

Knitters on THE NET

Here's what some of our fabulous online followers have been fashioning:



*Star
make*

Ready for
Christmas.
Gigglerg



@Letsknitmag
tweeted

What knitted gifts do you hope to receive this Christmas?

You responded:

A mountain of gorgeous chunky yarn would be amazing! Really into our chunky knits at the moment.

@CraftCloset

We'd like a knitted hammock and some sheep to farm for wool please Santa.

@Knitasoc

I would love a felted bag for my tiny knitting projects!

@Dee_liteful_yau

I'd like someone to knit me a jumper that makes me look 3 sizes smaller

@crabbyknickers

Some lovely fluffy bed socks.

@WendyJeanJones

Derek the snowman's girlfriend snowy. **Sophie Sawbridge**



I made this for my nephew; Jared, to give to his girlfriend at school.
Sarah Dunlevy

This is the snowman hat I made!
Sarah Widdowson



Teddy is ready for the big day. **Aisles**

Upload and win!

knittingwool & yarn

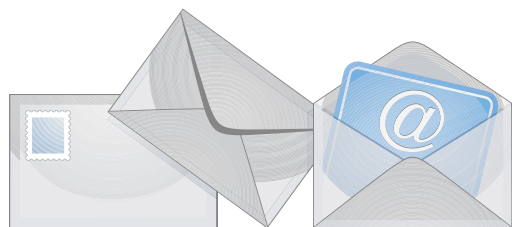
Our Star Knit winner has won a £25 voucher courtesy of Knitting Wool & Yarn. Next issue, the winner receives a copy of The Crochet Flower Box book and kit (R.R.P £14.99, published by Search Press).
www.knittingwooland yarn.co.uk, www.searchpress.com

**Why I ♥ my
knitting group**

"I love the diversity of our knitters, and how we support each other through thick and thin - including our mascot Bramble; a red and white Irish Setter."

Judith Kershaw

Let us know why you love your knitting group by emailing abbi.henderson@aceville.co.uk

**Get involved!**

Send tips and letters to
Let's Knit, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY or email abbi.henderson@aceville.co.uk

Write and win!

The writer of our star letter wins yarn and two pattern books worth over £45 courtesy of Artesano. Visit www.artesanoyarns.co.uk to see a wide range of knitting essentials.



Worth over £45!

Over to YOU!

Motherly love

Here is my son wearing the jumper I've knitted him for Christmas Jumper Day. All his friends have bought theirs from shops, but he wanted a handknitted one. Now his friends have seen it they all want me to knit them one next year! For years my son wouldn't wear anything handknitted as he said, "It's not cool". Now he wants all his jumpers handknitted! I'm going to knit some of the miniature jumpers too.

Julie Kearney, Lancashire

This jumper (and the glasses) are fab, Julie! We're delighted that you're joining in the Christmas Jumper Day celebrations! Be sure to send us photos of your miniature knitted jumpers once they are complete.

**Mug-hug**

I was made redundant after 11 years with the same company last Christmas. I did get a job, but it was just a maternity cover contract. Unfortunately my contract finished all too soon and they were not able to extend it.

The people I worked with were lovely and I wanted to leave them with something so they didn't forget me. I knitted a mug hug for each person. They were all constructed the same, but each was in a different colour and decorated to personalize it further. I did 21 in all and included the young lad who had been doing two weeks work experience with us. They went down well and I was able to find some cheap mugs to display them at their best.

Julia Cooper via email

What a thoughtful gesture. We think every company needs a set of these to ensure mugs never go walkabout! Good luck finding future mug-hug recipients!

**Loose women!**

I have been reading Let's Knit since the beginning – you helped me to take up my old hobby whilst my husband was poorly in hospital.

I went on a Cruise in September on The Marco Polo ship to Russia, and look who you helped me to talk to about crafts: Loose Woman and Actress Julie Peasgood! Come on Julie, Let's Knit!

Mandy Winning via email

Wow, Mandy – how very exciting! We're so glad that our mag was such a great conversation starter! We hope that Julie gave you a few knitting tips, and maybe even an autograph?

**Betty & Bumble**

I thought you may like to see my Betty bonnet from the September magazine, and my Bumble bonnet from the October magazine. They are simple to knit and would make nice gifts for Christmas or birthdays. P.S. I absolutely adore your little baby who models the Bumble hat. Beautiful!

Carol Partridge via email

Both bonnets look great, Carol – thank you for sharing them with us! They do indeed make great presents for children, especially if they are tied to the head of a brand new doll!

**Charlie the monkey**

This is Charlie the monkey. He now has a home with a friend of mine who recently nursed and lost her husband after a short terminal illness. She fell in love with Charlie when she visited my house recently, so I gave him to her as she has been through such a lot in the last nine months.

Fiona Twilley via email

Charlie is very sweet indeed, we can see exactly why your friend fell head-over-heels for him! Home made gifts are very sentimental – we think your friend will treasure Charlie for years to come as he was knitted by the hands of her kind-hearted friend.



Tip of the month

When you have finished a garment, stitch a length of spare yarn into one of the seams for any future repairs.

BRITANNIA HANNAH VIA FACEBOOK
 Printed tips win a £10 voucher to spend online at Black Sheep Wools

**Mix & match**

I unpicked a jumper I had made in Debbie Bliss pink cotton and one I had made in a speckled acrylic mix, then I made the jumper and headband in the photograph. I am delighted with the result.

Brenda Griffiths, Rugby

What a good idea, Brenda! It's really lovely to hear of people recycling old knitwear to make something new and fresh. Your new jumper and headband look fab!



NET Natter

Here's what our fab forum members have made!

This is a throw I made – it took so long to make!
KnittingqueenUK



I've just finished this as a 50th birthday present.
Bud10



Sign up to our forum www.homecraftforums.com to find like-minded knitters and crocheters and enter our challenges



This is the first jumper I've made and I'm very pleased!
Purly_Princess

Question OF THE MONTH



Last month we asked if winter is the best season for knitting, and a whopping 100% said yes! Here's what you had to say on the matter:

I think it is the best season to knit in preparation for. I love a warm woolly jumper when it gets cold.

KnittingMummy

I knit all through the year, but in the winter there's more incentive to stay in. Also, for mums of school-age kids like me, the summer holidays make quite a dent in your crafting time!

MrsSkip

Those of us infatuated with wool crafts can do wool craft throughout the year.

STAKREEM

I knit all year round but get more done in the colder months because I stay in more.

@Daughter_of_mum

I work on wool crafts throughout the year, but I knit more gifts in winter.

Su2ie

This month we'd like to know if you have made any New Years knit resolutions? Let us know at www.letsknit.co.uk/poll and we'll reveal the statistic next month!



Come and join us on Facebook! Visit www.facebook.com/letsknitmag



Purls of WISDOM

By Claire Thomas

Quantity is worth

Let me furnish you with some advice: never shackle yourself for life to a non-knitter. My husband, in common with many generally untidy people, has bursts of frenzied cleaning activity, when nothing in the house is safe and anything smaller than the toddler gets hoovered up at hurricane speed, leaving the house sparkling clean and strangely minimalist for a couple of weeks, before it gradually regains its normal disorganised clutter.

As always at this time, I stand guard over my knitting like a sentry. It is a natural target for Husband's vicious and energetic decluttering instincts, and I will defend it with my life. In fact, I may need to.

As there is such a lot of it, my yarn stash naturally attracts the attention of Husband's predatory house cleaning. At these times he cleans like a velociraptor, and I am afraid that he might hunt my stash to extinction. He has my stash in his sights right now, in fact.

"I don't see why you need to fill up the entire space under a double bed with bags of yarn," Husband says. "You wouldn't. You don't knit," I retort. We glare at each other. Divorce is in the air. We have this conversation about twice a year on average, or whenever Husband can be bothered to take arms against my stash.

"It'll take you years to knit it all. Couldn't you just get rid of it? Start again?" I favour this absurd suggestion with a look of pitiless disgust.

"Well, get rid of some of it, then."

"Couldn't we get rid of something easier? Like the dog?"

"We don't have a dog."

"We did. I knitted it. It was an

Airedale and I mistook it for a large pile of Sirdar Snowflake. It's a mistake anyone could make."

"You can't go on like this. The bed is starting to lift off the floor."



"Like a water bed?" I say hopefully.

"This isn't a good thing. Anyway, what happens when it reaches the ceiling?"

"We'll have the roof taken off. I'll knit us a roof."

"You can't have a knitted roof, it wouldn't keep the water out."

"It would if you felt it."

Provided it didn't rain too hard. That's what they mean by roof felt."

"You are deranged."

He's right. Not about that, about the yarn. In the eyes of a non-knitter, it's too much. But in my eyes, it's just right. There is always enough to make what I need. There is always something that will do - something

that is, like Goldilocks' porridge, just right for what I need to make. Whether it's the toddler's striped winter hat (with earflaps, natch), my brother's fingerless gloves knitted with self-striping sock yarn or the toy snowman I tried to make three times, which despite my best efforts ended up looking like a misshapen iceberg. (Toys just aren't my forte.) In the quantity of my yarn lies its worth. That's where the magic happens. Which is why I refuse to throw away any of it, even if I have to carry it on my back to keep it safe from Husband. Which I might. Which is why I say never marry a non-knitter: you just can't trust them.

Claire Thomas is a freelance journalist and founder of Stitch 'n' Bitch group Knit Pickers.



PRETTY
PARTY-
WEAR!

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORY PATTERN

Zelda is a
dazzling *1920s*
style necklace.

Designed by Veronica Shaw, this glamorous necklace has been influenced by the fabulous jazz-age. The huge diamond-esque button, the black fabric and the beaded tassel resemble statement pieces worn by flamboyant flapper girls way back when. Zelda is made with entwined i-cords, and sparkly beads. This is a great make for both expert, and beginner knitters - turn to page 82 to learn the basics of knitting an i-cord.

START KNITTING ON P64

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Necklace: 200cm long

KNIT KIT

Yarn: DMC Petra Cotton Perle 5, shade 310 Black, two 100g balls

Needles: 2.25mm double-pointed, set of two

One pack of silver lined delicat beads of choice

Beading needle

Thread in matching colour

Button: one, vintage style

Clear craft glue

ABOUT THE YARN

DMC Petra Cotton Perle 5 is made with 100% Egyptian cotton. It's perfect for working with beads, and comes in a vast range of pretty colours.

Need an alternative yarn?

Anchor Artiste Baby Soft Crochet Cotton is also 100% Egyptian cotton, and is incredibly soft. It is available in black, as well as seven other pastel shades.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



DMC Petra Cotton Perle 5
costs £4.95 per 100g (400m)
ball from 01453 889988,
www.sewandso.co.uk

Anchor Artiste Baby Soft Crochet Cotton costs £4.89
per 50g (208m) ball from
www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk



"If you're inspired by Gatsby-esque jewellery, you could replace the black and silver beads with pearls to really fit the part!"

LK DEPUTY EDITOR
ADRIENNE CHANDLER

START KNITTING HERE

Strand one

Using two 2.25mm dpns and leaving a tail of 30cm, cast on two sts

□ Row 1: push two sts to other end of dpn, k1, kfb. Three sts

□ Row 2: push three sts to other end of dpn, k3 sts

□ Rep Row 2 until i-cord meas 200cm

□ Cast off by k2tog, k1, pass first st over second, tie off leaving tail of 30cm

Strand two

□ Thread approx 120-140 beads onto yarn

□ Work as Strand One for ten rows

□ Cont to work until i-cord meas 190cm, adding beads randomly (see Knitwise)

□ Work ten more rows in i-cord

□ Cast off

Blackberry beads (make five)

□ * Thread beading needle with 100cm fine cotton or beading silk

□ Thread three beads onto thread, draw down to 30cm before end of thread, tie a double overhand knot to secure beads in a ring shape

□ Thread a further three beads onto yarn and pull needle with rem yarn through centre of first ring of beads, tie a double overhand knot

□ Cont threading beads and drawing through centre of 'Blackberry' until approx 1cm in diameter. 18-21 beads

□ Place beads to form round shape, tie securely with overhand knots, cut working yarn to same length as first tying yarn *

□ Rep from * to * five times

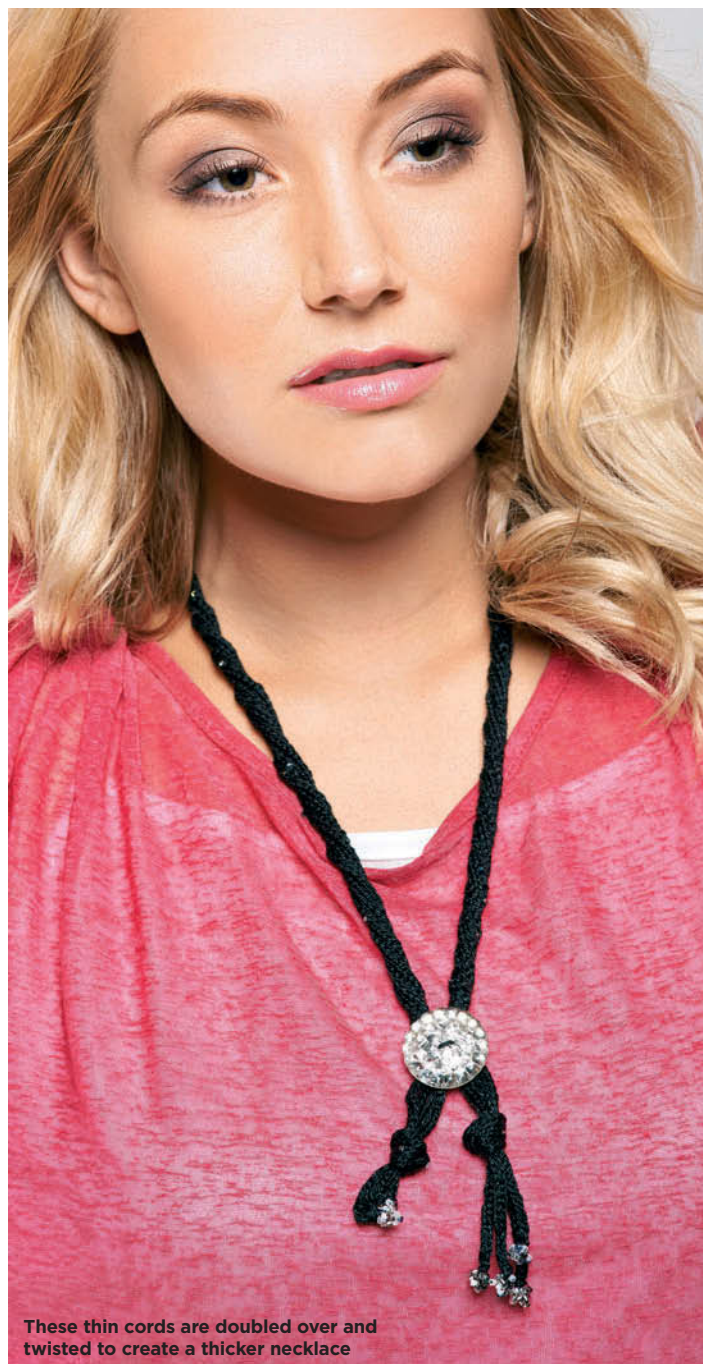
□ St and tie one Blackberry to each end of i-cords

Seal knot with clear craft glue, leave to dry, weave ends into end of i-cord and trim



"Try this design with a thicker glitzy yarn such as Rico Métalissé. Use a larger button, and slightly bigger beads for a more chunky necklace"

LK DESIGNER VERONICA SHAW



These thin cords are doubled over and twisted to create a thicker necklace

To make up

Lay both lengths of i-cord on a flat surface with approximately 1-2cm difference at each end so each cord appears to be longer than the other. Locate centre of necklace and tie an overhand knot firmly. Tie a further overhand knot with all four cords to secure close to first knot firmly. Tie another overhand knot approximately 5cm from furthest Blackberry at opposite end keeping i-cords lined up evenly. Twist cords together as shown on model, tie fancy button at ends and seal knot with craft glue. Attach remaining Blackberries to front of first knot and seal with craft glue. **LK**

knitwise

TOP TIPS! As you work, pull and tease the i-cord to stretch it to its utmost, then let it spring back and measure. When adding a bead place these at every 4th/5th/6th/7th etc rows as required as follows: push sts to end of dpn, k1, place needle as to knit and then place bead and finish by completing the knit stitch, k1. You can use more or less beads as required

CROWNING GLORY

Go for gold! Gisela Graham tree decoration, £3.75, 0845 130 8229, www.tch.net

CRYSTAL CLEAR

He's coming to town! Santa Claus, £249, 0203 640 8400, www.swarovski.com

PRETTY AS A PEACOCK

Get on trend this Christmas! Bauble, £1.50, 0845 608 0807, www.wilko.com

XMAS SPARKLE

Choose a glitzy yarn. Rico Creative Reflection, £2.99 per 50g (240m) ball, 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

OH SO Opulent

Christmas is a time for all things lavish and luxurious!

PARTY TIME

Look stunning in sequins. The Glamour Collection, £5.65, 0845 576 0007, www.loveknitting.com

FINISHING TOUCH

Embellish your knits. Velvet lace trim, £2.25 per m, 07432 408509, www.trixielixie.co.uk

POINT PERFECT

Treat yourself to luxury needles. KnitPro Symfonie Rose Interchangeable Set, £75, 01225 462776, www.greatbritishyarns.co.uk

FESTIVE TREATS

Indulge your sweet tooth. Magic & Sparkle Truffle Tree, £16, www.marksandspencer.com

KEEP COSY

Wrap up in faux fur. Louisa Harding Luzia, £14.95 per 50g (40m) ball, 01244 389310, www.stashfineyarns.com

Opulence is one of the big trends this festive season and we've got a great selection of knitty and non-knitty treats. You don't have to get a second mortgage to get this look, some of these goodies are very purse-friendly. Knitters will love the sparkly yarns on offer, while faux fur yarns are perfect for wrapping up warm. Gold, glitter and peacock blue are all strong colour schemes to make December 25th look good from every angle. For more seasonal treats, turn to page 81 for our Christmas hamper giveaway! Merry Christmas!

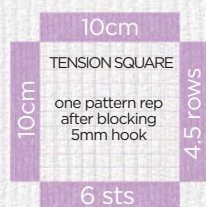
MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Misty (approx): 38cm wide
x 210cm long

CROCHET KIT

Yarn: (A) Rowan Kidsilk Haze Stripe, shade 361 Chiaroscuro, (B) Rowan Fine Lace, shade 922 Cobweb, one 50g ball of each, (C) Rowan Kidsilk Haze, shade 664 Steel, (D) Rowan Kidsilk Haze Eclipse, shade 456 Libre, two 25g balls of each

Hook: 5mm



ABOUT THE YARN

Rowan Kidsilk Haze blends 70% super kid mohair with 30% silk. It also comes in a variegated effect called **Kidsilk Haze Stripe**, and **Kidsilk Haze Eclipse**, which has a thread of sparkle running throughout.

Rowan Fine Lace is another luxury yarn blending 80% baby Suri alpaca and 20% fine merino wool.

Need an alternative yarn? If you would prefer solid shades, try **Austermann Kidsilk**. It comprises 75% kid mohair and 25% silk and comes in a beautiful range of bright or muted colourways.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Rowan Kidsilk Haze costs £8.80 per 25g (210m) ball, **Rowan Kidsilk Haze Stripe** costs £17.95 per 50g (420m) ball, **Rowan Kidsilk Haze Eclipse** costs £8.80 per 25g (200m) ball, **Rowan Fine Lace** costs £7.95 per 50g (400m) ball from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com
For 10% off these yarns, use the code **LK74**

Austermann Kid Silk costs £6 per 25g (225m) ball from 01279 771153, www.modernknitting.co.uk



LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE CROCHET PATTERN

Misty by Sarah Hazell is a glamorous wrap for your seasonal soirées!

Get ready for the party season with this sophisticated wrap with a hint of festive sparkle! The grey shade gives an understated elegance while the stripes bring a soft splash of colour. It's crocheted in a silk and mohair blend yarn, which has a lovely fluffy halo. This effect does make it tricky to see the stitches through, so work slowly and carefully.

START CROCHETING HERE

Side One

NOTE: wrap is worked in two halves, either side of the foundation chain, so work in one strand of the chain only Using 5mm hook and yarns B and C held tog make 266ch

□ Row 1 (RS): 1dc in second ch from hook, * 5ch, miss next three ch, 1dc in next ch, rep from * to end of row, turn
□ Row 2: 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch), 1dc in next 5-ch sp, * (1tr, 1ch, 1tr, 1ch, 1tr) in next dc, 1dc in next 5-ch sp, rep from * ending last rep at **, 2ch, 1tr in last dc, turn

□ Row 3: 1ch, 1dc in first tr, * (1tr, 1ch, 1tr, 1ch, 1tr) in next dc, miss next 1-ch sp, 1dc in next tr, (1tr, 1ch, 1tr, 1ch, 1tr) in next dc, 1dc in next 5-ch sp, rep from * to end, working last dc in third of 5ch, turn
□ Row 4: 5ch (counts as 1tr, 2ch), miss next 1-ch sp, * 1dc in next tr, (1tr, 1ch, 1tr, 1ch, 1tr) in next dc, miss next 1-ch sp, 1dc

in next tr **, 5ch, miss next two 1-ch sps, rep from * ending last rep at **, 2ch, miss next 1-ch sp, 1tr in last dc, turn

□ Row 5: 1ch, 1dc in first tr, 5ch, miss next two ch sps, * 1dc in next tr [centre tr of group], 5ch, miss next 1-ch sp **, 1dc in next 5-ch sp, 5ch, miss next 1-ch sp, rep from * ending last rep at **, 1dc in third of 5ch, turn

□ Rows 6-9: rep Rows 2-5 using yarns A and D held tog

□ Rep Rows 2-9 once, then Rows 2-3 again

□ Fasten off

Side Two

Using 5mm hook and with

RS of work facing, rejoin yarns B and C to first dc with a sl st

□ Row 1 (RS): 1dc in same place as sl st, * 5ch, miss next three ch, 1dc in next ch, rep from * to end of row, turn

□ Work to match Side One from Row 2 to end

To make up

Weave in any loose ends, then pin out so that shells and spaces are clearly defined. Cover with a clean damp towel and leave to dry. Remove towel, then leave wrap to dry thoroughly **LK**

crochetclever

CHANGING COLOUR: When changing colour in crochet, you should do this during the final step of the last stitch on the previous row. For example, in this case you are working a dc. Using the working yarns insert your hook into the next st, yoh and pull through. Now using your two new yarns, work a yoh and pull through the two loops on your hook. This gives a neat join and you are ready to continue with your new colour combination.



"As with all lace projects, whether knitted or crocheted, you should block your work to even out the stitches – see how to do it on page 91."



LK DEPUTY EDITOR
ADRIENNE CHANDLER

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LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE HOMEWARES PATTERNS

Boudoir is a glamorous *bedroom set* by *Charmaine Fletcher*

With a slip-stitch border and a pretty lace edging, you will be living in the lap of luxury with these gorgeous matching bedroom pieces. Whether you're storing make up, jewellery or pyjamas, they are great for taking on holiday, or giving as gifts. Each piece has been lined with smooth satin and embellished with beads and ribbon for the perfect finishing touch.

START KNITTING ON P70

PRETTY
MATCHING
SET

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Make up bag (before making up):
32cm x 20cm

Jewellery roll (before making up):
41cm x 20cm

Pyjama case (before making up):
61cm x 33cm

KNIT KIT

Yarn: Louisa Harding Grace Silk and Wool, shade 22 Reflection, six 50g (100m) balls

Needles: 3.75mm, 3.25mm, 3mm

Beads: 4mm faux pearl, six; 6mm x 9mm teardrop, three; 1cm heart-shaped bead, three

Satin lining fabric: 38cm x 24cm (for make up bag), 46cm x 24cm (for jewellery roll) 66cm x 38cm (for pyjama case)

Ribbon: organdie, 1cm width, 34cm length, three cuttings

Satin, 1cm width, 25cm length (for make up bag), 50cm length (for jewellery roll), 37cm length (for pyjama case)

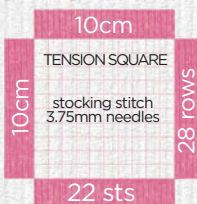
Press stud:

7mm, clear, four

Sewing pins

Sewing needle and clear thread

Tracing/greaseproof paper



ABOUT THE YARN

Louisa Harding's Grace Silk and Wool blends soft merino wool with lustrous mulberry silk. It is available in 25 fashionable shades.

Need an alternative yarn?

Rico Design Fashion Nature DK is an 80% acrylic yarn, with 10% wool, 5% alpaca and 5% viscose, making it wonderfully soft to knit with. Try using shade 004 Light Blue to match.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

M1R: make one stitch by picking up the horizontal loop before the next st with LH needle from back to front. Knit into the front loop

M1L: work as regular m1 stitch

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88

knitwise

SLIP AND SLIDE: When working in stocking stitch, knitting and purling every row can lead to rather unsightly edges. However, slipping the first stitch and knitting the last creates a much neater border, which is great for more delicate projects. In this pattern you are told to slip one, knit one at the beginning of each row, and to knit the last two stitches – this is true even on purl rows.



START KNITTING HERE

Make up bag

NOTE: the basic lace design uses a slip stitch border. When knitting the stocking stitch section of the bag flaps, sl 1, k1 at the beg of each row, and k the final two sts. The pattern also loses some stitches at the end of the lace section. Using 3.75mm needles, cast on 57 stitches

□ Row 1 (RS): sl 1, p to last st, k1
□ Row 2 (WS): sl 1, p2, * k3, (p1, k3) three times, p3, rep from * to end

□ Row 3: sl 1, k1, * yfwd, k1, p2tog, p1, (k1, p3) twice, k1, p1, p2tog, k1, yfwd, k1, rep from * to last st, k1

□ Row 4: sl 1, p3, * k2, p1, (k3, p1) twice, k2, p5, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with k4

□ Row 5: sl 1, k2, * yfwd, k1, p2, (k1, p1, p2tog) twice, k1, p2, k1, yfwd, k3, rep from * to end

□ Row 6: sl 1, p4, * k2, (p1, k2) three times, p7, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with p5

□ Row 7: sl 1, k3, * yfwd, k1,

p2tog, (k1, p2) twice, k1, p2tog, k1, yfwd, k5, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with k4

□ Row 8: sl 1, p5, * k1, (p1, k2) twice, p1, k1, p9, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with p6

□ Row 9: sl 1, k4, * yfwd, k1, p1, (k1, p2tog) twice, k1, p1, k1, yfwd, k7, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with k5

□ Row 10: sl 1, p6, * k1, (p1, k1) three times, p11, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with p7

□ Row 11: sl 1, k5, * (skpo) twice, k1, (k2tog) twice, k9, rep from * to end, finishing last rep with k6. 45 sts

□ Rows 12-13: sl 1, k to end

□ Row 14: sl 1, p2, * yrn, p2tog, rep from * to last two sts, k2.

□ Rows 15-17: sl 1, k to end

□ Keeping slip st border intact and beg with a p row, cont in

st st until work meas 9.5cm, ending after a WS row

FOLD AND BACK

□ Row 1 (RS): sl 1, M1R, p to last st, M1L, k1. 47 sts

□ Beg with a p row, work in st st without a slip st border until work meas 31.5 cm, ending after a RS row

Change to 3.25mm needles

□ Work two rows in st st

Change to 3mm needles

□ Cast off kwise on WS

To make up

Block work. Using tracing or greaseproof paper, make a pattern from knitted piece and dimensions. Prepare lining leaving a wide turning for scalloped edging (it will be



Louisa Harding Grace Silk and Wool costs £7.94 per 50g (100m) ball from

01244 389310,

www.stashfineyarns.com

Rico Design Fashion Nature DK costs £2.79 per 50g (233m) ball from 08400

488 0708, www.deramores.com

For 10% off all orders at Deramores, turn to p35



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LK DESIGNER CHARMINE FLETCHER

"Vintage' has never really gone out of fashion; make this '30s-inspired set your own by customising it to keep treasured accessories and jewellery safe – vintage-style, of course!"



st st until work meas 9.5cm, ending after a WS row

FOLD AND BACK

- Row 1 (RS): sl 1 pwise, M1R, p to last st, M1L, k1. 47 sts
- Cont with slip st border and beg with a p row, cont in st st until work meas 20cm, ending after a WS row
- Beg with a k row, work in st st without slip st until pocket section meas 10.5cm, ending after a WS row
- Next row (RS): p to end
- Beg with a p row, work in st st without slip st border until pocket section meas 10cm, ending after a WS row
- Change to 3.25mm needles
- Work in st st for two rows
- Change to 3mm needles
- Cast off kwise

Jewellery holder

Using 3.75mm needles, cast on 46 sts

- Rows 1-2: p
 - Row 3: k4, * yfwd, k2, rep from * to last four sts, yfwd, k4
 - Rows 4-5: p
 - Change to 3mm needles
 - Cast off kwise
- Thread with 22cm of ribbon, neatening and folding over either end and securing on wrong side of the knitting

To make up

Follow To Make Up instructions for Make Up Bag. Secure one end of Jewellery Holder to right side of the roll. Attach popper to other end of Holder and corresponding side of roll

PYJAMA CASE

Using 3.75mm needles, cast on 93 sts

- Rows 1-17: rep Rows 1-17 of Make Up Bag. 73 sts
- Row 18: cont with slip st border and beg with a p row, cont in st st until work meas 19cm ending after a WS row

FOLD AND BACK

- Next row: sl 1 pwise, M1R, p to last st, M1L, k1. 75 sts
- Cont without slip st border and beg with a p row, cont in st st until work meas 60.5cm ending after a RS row
- Change to 3.25mm needles
- Work two rows in st st
- Change to 3mm needles
- Cast off

To make up

Follow instructions for Make Up Bag **LK**

necessary to trim and pin this to fit later). Thread eyelets with ribbon, neatening and folding ends under, stitch to wrong side of the bag flap. Pin and stitch lining using clear thread, first ensuring that pocket fits knitted bag. Fit, pin and sew sides, slip stitch lining 'pocket', hem and oversew edges to prevent fraying. Fit pocket inside bag and slip stitch lining hem and sides in place in knitted bag using clear thread. Make a bow using organdie ribbon, trim and coat edges with clear nail polish to prevent fraying. Make bead charm: double over a length of clear thread, thread needle through teardrop bead and secure at narrow end by pulling thread and needle through loop, add a pearl, a heart and final pearl bead. Secure and stitch to back of bow, then stitch bow to base of central scallop. Secure and fasten off. Finally, using a cool iron over a clean cloth, gently press knitting on stocking stitch side only

JEWELLERY ROLL

Using 3.75mm needles, cast on 57 sts

- Rep Rows 1-17 of Make Up Bag patt. 45 sts
- Keeping slip st border intact and beg with a p row, cont in



The jewellery roll features a useful holder to keep items secure and tidy

"Luxurious and elegant, this pretty set will be a wonderful addition to your bedroom. Why not adapt the pattern to make matching cushion covers?"

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS



It's the season for scarf-wearing, so Abbi Henderson explores the wide world of scarf yarns...

Christmas is on the horizon, the weather's getting colder, and a cosy, hand-knitted scarf is what every knitter wants to keep out the chills – but with Christmas gifts still on the needles and everything else the festive season throws at us, who has time for extensive scarf knitting? Scarf yarns, those flamboyant, fancy yarns that are popping up everywhere, could just be the answer...

The scarf yarn revolution

Knitters have always made scarves, but it's only been in recent years that the phenoma of scarf yarn has exploded onto the knitting scene. When Rico launched their first dedicated scarf yarn, Can Can, in the UK back in 2009, it was an enormous success and a craze was born. With the pattern on the inside of the ball band, the knitter could create a fabulous ruffled scarf

from one ball in just a few hours. Knitters everywhere were so eager to get their hands on this speedy fix that retailers quickly ran out. Not surprisingly, other yarn producers quickly began to design their own take on the scarf yarn!

Super-saver!

Scarf yarn is especially useful if you're strapped for time, money, or advanced knitting skills. For the complete beginner, wary of tangled yarn and never-ending patterns, the scarf yarn gives a gentle and friendly welcome into the world of knitting. The concept is that you purchase just one ball of yarn, and it knits a whole scarf – no tension squares or complicated colour work, just a simple and straightforward pattern.

Scarf yarn galore

Contrary to what you might think scarf yarns aren't just for knitting pretty scarves. Rico Design has launched an exciting new concept of using scarf yarns to knit handbags. This brilliant idea combines the quickness of the easy-to-use scarf yarn with the appeal of creating a practical and fashionable accessory. The scarf yarn handbag pattern is available from Rico stockists in varied shapes and sizes, and uses as little as 200g of yarn. If handbags aren't your passion, why not try knitting a cushion?



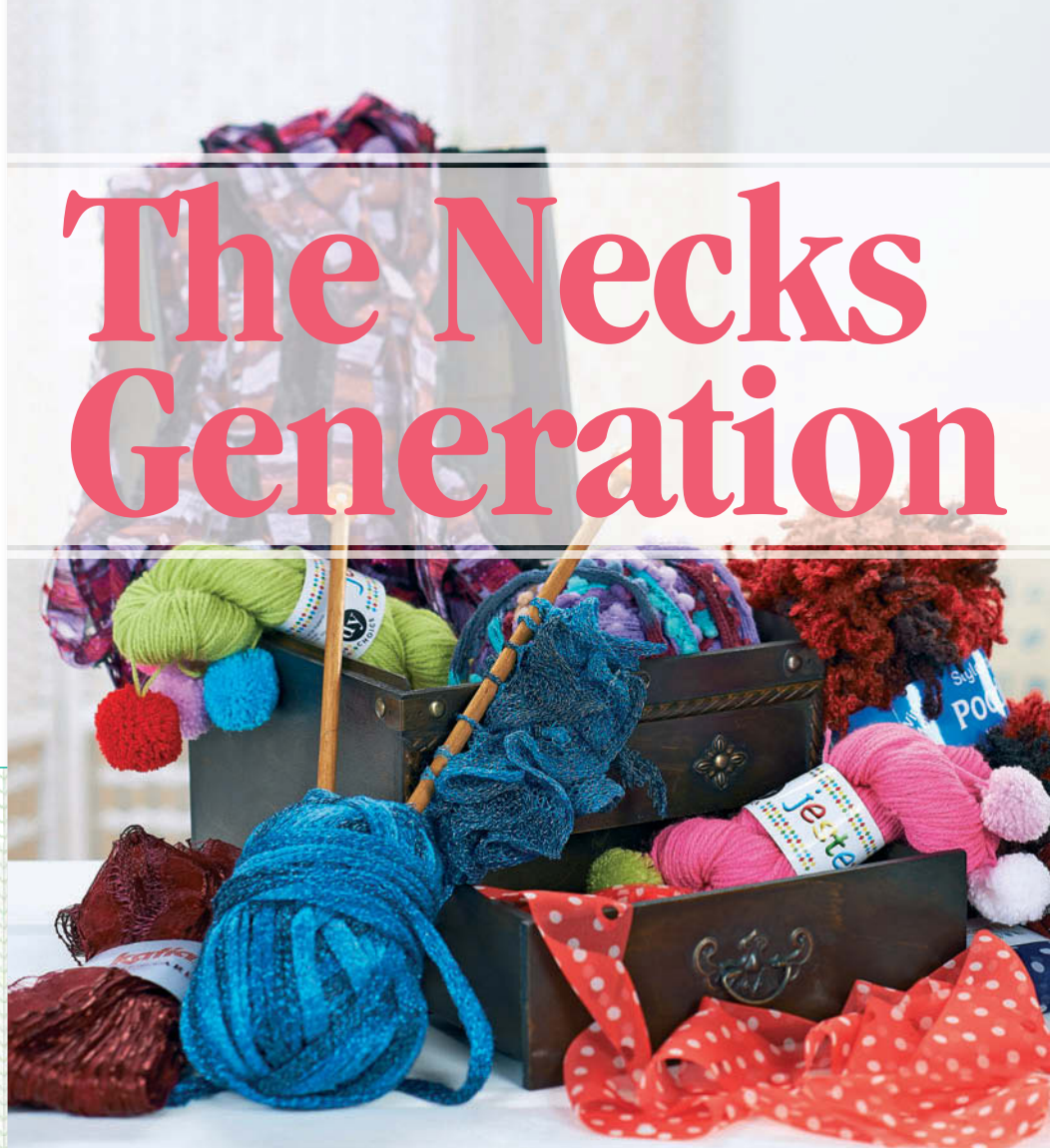
Disco fever!

Can Can Disco is made of 100% acrylic and is fused with glittery thread to make for a dazzling scarf. It comes in a range of glossy and glam colours, and the pattern is printed on the inside of the ball band. It costs £6.75 per 100g (42m) ball from **01793 750604**, www.cricklade crafts.co.uk



Pompom perfect!

Aruba is made of a thin ribbon yarn, and is garnished with minuscule pompoms to give the scarf a slightly fuller texture. It is 100% polyester and is available in both single and multi colours. Aruba costs £6.99 per 100g (23m) ball from **01926 882 818**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



Nifty thinking!

Expert knitters have been known to create their own micro-businesses using scarf yarns. Once knitted and perfected, the finished scarves are sold on to those who enjoy the product, but are unable (or too busy!) to knit. Rumour has it that an elderly Irish lady sells her completed scarves in a Dublin-based store for 80 Euros each! How very wise...



Scarf knit tips!

- 1 With fancy yarns it can be tricky to see your stitches so work slowly and carefully, counting stitches after each row.
- 2 Bamboo needles grip stitches well so are good to use with slippery yarns.
- 3 Some scarf yarns have fringing or embellishments attached to a strand of regular yarn; with these types of yarns, you knit into this strand as normal. Check the ball band for instructions if you're unsure.
- 4 Don't over-complicate things by trying to use intricate stitches, you won't see them on the finished project - let the yarn do the talking.
- 5 If you're making other projects like bags or cushions, use a smooth yarn for sewing up.

All tied up...

Katia's Tutu yarn comes in an extensive range of styles and colours. From solid shades with scalloped edges, to bold zebra and floral prints - there is a scarf yarn to suit almost everyone. It is made of 100% polyester, and is hand-wash only. Tutu costs £9.95 per 40g (24m) ball from 01279 771153, www.modernknitting.co.uk



Need help getting started? Here are some helpful hints!

1 Unfold the strand of yarn and insert the needle through the top edge of the fabric from front to back. Repeat this, leaving a 4cm gap between each stitch.



2 Insert the RH needle through the stitch, place the top edge of the fabric on to the end of the RH needle and pull through the stitch.



3 Repeat this in every stitch to create a ruffled effect



A WORD FROM THE EXPERTS



We caught up with **Michael Armstrong** from Rico Design to discuss its impact on the scarf yarn industry...



Rico is often heralded as having revitalising the scarf yarn. Where did the idea come from?

As a new knitting brand, Rico Design needed to find its own unique route to market. Scarf yarns combine strengths of colour, creativity, and provide great value for money - therefore they were a natural choice for us. They have helped Rico Design to become one of the major knitting industry players in Europe in just six short years.

Why do you think scarf yarns are so popular?

The secret of success for a scarf yarn is that the product needs to be simple to use, available in a great range of styles and colours, and priced so they appeal to everyone. The other aspect to any accessory yarn is that it should be versatile, and can be used for other products, for example: handbags, cushions etc.

"Scarf yarns combine strengths of colour, creativity, and provide great value for money"

There are now so many varieties of scarf yarn, which is the best seller?

The most successful and engaging scarf product of all time is Can-Can. I got the idea from a very clever product launched three years earlier by a competitor company. It was a great idea, but was the wrong product, wrong price, and the wrong time. With the continuous developments in yarn manufacturing, the woven structure needed for Can-Can arrived and the rest is history.

Some experienced knitters might suggest that using a scarf yarn as opposed to regular yarn is 'cheating'. What would you say to that?

Many knitters believe these types of products are not real knitting. From my point of view, I see any yarn that makes consumers pick up the pins and want to

learn to knit very satisfying. How these knitters develop from here is their choice but at least they discover what a wonderful and creative craft knitting is.

For more information about Rico Design, visit www.rico-design.de/en/home



Curly whirly

Poodle is listed as an easy care scarf - benefiting from the ability to be machine washed and also tumble dried. It is available in seven different shades, and is a cosy mix of 74% acrylic, 16% polyester, and 10% mohair. Poodle costs £6.99 per 100g (12m) ball from 07974 954663, www.awoollytail.co.uk



MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Hat: 26cm tall x 50cm circumference

Cowl: 20cm wide x 150cm circumference

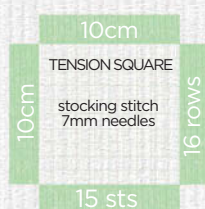
Mitts: 27cm long x 22cm circumference

KNIT KIT

Yarn: King Cole Magnum Chunky, (A) shade 10 Champagne, (B) shade 316 Pebble, Hat: one 100g ball of each, Mittens: one 100g ball of each, Cowl: one 100g ball of yarn A, two 100g balls of yarn B

Needles: 7mm double-pointed, 7mm circular

Tapestry needle



ABOUT THE YARN

King Cole Magnum Chunky is a lightweight chunky yarn made of 25% wool and 75% acrylic. It is ideal for warm winter knits, and is available in an array of single and multi shades.

Need an alternative yarn?

Katia Peru is made of 40% wool, 40% acrylic, and 20% alpaca. It comes in 30 vibrant shades, and is machine washable.

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



King Cole Magnum Chunky costs £3.25 per 100g (110m) ball from 0845 003 0775, www.wool4less.co.uk

Katia Peru costs £5.70 per 100g (106m) ball. Find stockists for Katia Peru at www.katia.com



JOINING IN THE RND
For an online tutorial on this technique visit www.letsknit.co.uk

LET'S KNIT EXCLUSIVE ACCESSORY PATTERN

Chicago is an eye-catching hat, cowl and mittens set by Julie Ferguson

Chunky knits have been a huge trend of 2013, so what better way to end the year than to knit yourself a gorgeous accessory set ready to welcome in 2014? Chicago has been made using a beautiful lightweight chunky yarn for extra thick and cosy warmers. The pretty colourwork adds texture, and a slight festive feel to the knits, making them perfect for a snowy stroll to see out 2013.

START KNITTING HERE

HAT

Using yarn B and 7mm circular needle or dpns, cast on 70 sts without twisting, join in the rnd, pm

□ Work eight rnds in (k1, p1) rib Change to st st

□ K one rnd

Join in yarn A

□ Work Rows 1-8 of chart (p76) three times

□ Work Row 1 once more Change to yarn B

□ K one rnd

□ Next rnd: * k15, k2tog, rep from * to last two sts, k2. 66 sts

CROWN

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k9, rep from * to end. 60 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k8, rep from * to end. 54 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k7, rep from * to end. 48 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k6, rep from * to end. 42 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k5, rep from * to end. 36 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k4, rep

from * to end. 30 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k3, rep from * to end. 24 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k2, rep from * to end. 18 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, k1, rep from * to end. 12 sts

□ Next rnd: * k2tog, rep from * to end. Six sts

Break yarn, thread through remaining sts, pull up tightly and cast off

COWL

Using yarn B and 7mm circular needle, cast on 210 sts without twisting, join in the rnd, place a st marker at beg of rnd

□ Work eight rnds in (k1, p1) rib Change to st st

□ K one rnd

Join in yarn A

□ Work Rows 1-8 of chart (p76) twice

□ Work Row 1 once more Change to yarn B

□ K one rnd

□ Work eight rnds in (k1, p1) rib Cast off loosely

MITTENS

Using yarn B and 7mm dpns, cast on 28 sts without twisting, join in the round, pm

□ Work eight rnds in (k1, p1) rib Change to st st

KEEP KNITTING ON P76

knitwise

PATTERN PALAVER: All three items are worked from the same chart (p76), which consists of a seven-stitch motif that is repeated across the round. Each item is worked in the round so every row of the chart should be read from right to left. Use the stranding technique, where the colour not in use is carried across the back of the work.



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FAB
CHUNKY
SET



Coat, £35, Marks & Spencer

- ## THUMBHOLE

☐ K eight rnds
Cast off loosely

Sew in all ends **LK**



LK DEPUTY EDITOR ADRIENNE CHANDLER

[illegible]

SCARF AND EARWARMER BY HELEN ARDLEY



ASLANTRENDS
NATURAL LUXURY YARNS

Invernal

50% Angora, 25%
Merino & 25% Polyamide

270 metres

4-5mm needles

4-5 stitches per inch

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POLISHED Purple



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

From Amitelle pattern
book by Louisa
Harding, £5.95,
01244 389310,
www.stashfineyarns.co.uk

1 Katia Air Lux – shade Amethyst, costs £5.60 per 50g (300m) ball. See www.katia.com for stockists.

2 Erika Knight Medium Vintage Wool – shade Mulberry, costs £5.95 per 50g (87m) ball from 07876 550698, www.knituk.com

3 Austermann Siberia – shade 16, costs £5.99 per 50g (110m) ball from 01274 873279, www.twistandpurl.co.uk

4 James C. Brett Moonlight Sonata DK – shade SM4 costs £4.99 per 100g (500m) ball from www.purpleindacrafts.co.uk

5 Rowan Tumble – shade Amethyst costs £11.50 per 100g (70m) ball from 01829 740903, www.laughinghens.com

6 West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley DK – shade Purple Haze costs £4.75 per 100g (230m) ball from 01535 664500, www.wyspinners.com

7 Artesano Alpaca 4ply – shade Paraguay costs £4.94 per 50g (184m) ball from 01244 389310, www.stashfineyarns.com

8 King Cole Big Value Super Chunky – shade Heather costs £2.26 per 100g (81m) ball from 01924 565740, www.woolinstuff.co.uk

MEASUREMENTS & SIZES

Dress size (approx):

8-10 (12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-26, 28-30)

To fit bust (cm):

81-86 (91-97, 102-107, 112-117, 122-127, 132-137)

Actual measurements (cm):

89 (99, 110, 121, 130, 139)

Full Length approx (cm):

50 (52, 56, 59, 61, 63)

Sleeve Length (cm):

46 (46, 47, 48, 48, 48)

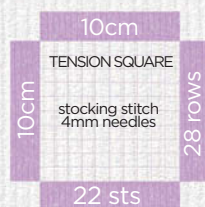
KNIT KIT

Yarn: Hayfield DK with Wool, shade 102 Hollygreen, 4 (5, 5, 6, 6, 7) 100g balls (for Droptail version), shade 93 Whitby Grey, 3 (3, 4, 4, 5, 5) 100g balls (for Short Version)

Needles: 3.25mm, 4mm

Cable needle

Stitch holders



ABOUT THE YARN

Hayfield DK with Wool is 80% acrylic and 20% wool, making a versatile and affordable yarn. It is available in 14 practical shades, and has a strong twist which makes it ideal for showing off cable patterns.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

T5L: slip next four sts on to cn and hold at front, p1, k4 from cn

T5R: slip next st on to cn and hold at back, k4, p1 from cn

MB: make bobble - (k1, p1, k1, p1) all into next st, turn, p4, turn, k4, turn, p4, turn, sl 2 sts kwise, k2tog, p2sso

pfb: purl into front and back of st

FOR ABBREVIATIONS SEE PAGE 88



Hayfield DK with Wool costs £2.99 per 100g (300m) ball from 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

LET'S KNIT GARMENT PATTERN

Nancy is an unusual *cable sweater* set with two different styles

Jumpers are quickly becoming one of the most fashionable garments around – which is great news for knitters! Whether you're dressing down with jeans, or teaming with a skirt for a trendy 80s look, sweater style is unbeatable. Designed by Sirdar, Nancy's striking cable pattern is simple but beautiful, and you can choose to knit yours with a longer droptail back, or a with a more traditional short and even length.

START KNITTING HERE

DROPTAIL SWEATER Back

Using 3.25mm needles and thumb method cast on 107 (121, 133, 147, 159, 173) sts

□ Row 1: p1, * k1, p1, rep from * to end

□ Row 2: * k1, p1, rep from * to last st, k1

Rows 1-2 set rib

□ Work five more rows in rib

□ Row 8: p7 (7, 5, 4, 2, 5), p2tog, [p5 (5, 6, 6, 6, 5), p2tog] 13 (15, 15, 17, 19, 23) times, p7 (7, 6, 5, 3, 5). 93 (105, 117, 129, 139, 149) sts

Change to 4mm needles

□ Row 9: p37 (43, 49, 55, 60, 65), k4, p5, MB, p5, k4, p to end

□ Row 10: k37 (43, 49, 55, 60, 65), p4, k11, p4, k to end

□ Row 11: p37 (43, 49, 55, 60, 65), T5L, p9, T5R, p to end

□ Row 12: k38 (44, 50, 56, 61, 66), p4, k9, p4, k to end

□ Row 13: p38 (44, 50, 56, 61, 66), T5L, p7, T5R, p to end

□ Row 14: k39 (45, 51, 57, 62, 67), p4, k7, p4, k to end

□ Row 15: p39 (45, 51, 57, 62, 67), T5L, p2, MB, p2, T5R, p to end

□ Row 16: k40 (46, 52, 58, 63, 68), p4, k5, p4, k to end

□ Row 17: p40 (46, 52, 58, 63, 68), T5L, p3, T5R, p40 (46, 52, 58, 63, 68)

□ Row 18: k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), p4, k3, p4, k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 19: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), T5L, p1, T5R, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 20: k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), p4, k1, p4, k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 21: p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), k4, p1, k4, p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 22: rep Row 20

CABLE PANEL

□ Row 1: p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), k4, p1, k4, p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 2: k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), p4, k1, p4, k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 3: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), T5R, p1, T5L, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 4: k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), p4, k3, p4, k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 5: p40 (46, 52, 58, 63, 68), T5R, p3, T5L, p40 (46, 52, 58, 63, 68)

□ Row 6: k40 (46, 52, 58, 63, 68), p4, k5, p4, k40 (46, 52, 58, 63, 68)

□ Row 7: p39 (45, 51, 57, 62, 67), T5R, p5, T5L, p to end, turn cast on four sts, pm. 97 (109, 121, 133, 143, 153) sts

□ Row 8: k43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), p4, k7, p4, k to end, turn cast on four sts, pm. 101 (113, 125, 137, 147, 157) sts

□ Row 9: p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), T5R, p3, MB, p3, T5L, p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 10: k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), p4, k9, p4, k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 11: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), T5R, p9, T5L, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 12: k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), p4, k11, p4, k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 13: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), k4, p11, k4, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 14: k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), p4, k11, p4, k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 15: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), k4, p5, MB, p5, k4, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 16: k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), p4, k11, p4, k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 17: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), T5L, p9, T5R, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)

□ Row 18: k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), p4, k9, p4, k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 19: p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), T5L, p7, T5R, p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)

□ Row 20: k43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), p4, k7, p4, k43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71)

□ Row 21: p43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), T5L, p2, MB, p2, T5R, p43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71)

knitwise

RIGHT OR LEFT? When you are asked to decrease a stitch, you may be left wondering which method is best. The neatest method really depends on where you are in the pattern. Here, you are working in reverse stocking stitch, so the left-leaning p2tog should be used on the right-hand side of the piece (leaning towards the centre of the garment). One the left-hand side, use the right-leaning p2tog tbl. When working on the wrong side, k2tog leans to the right, so looks neater on the left-hand side of the garment, leaning towards the centre. Ssk and skpo both lean to the left, and therefore look neater on the right-hand side. These can be used interchangeably, so just use whichever you find easier.



"I love Nancy's unusual cable panel – it's such a simple shape, but it's so effective!"

LK EDITORIAL ASSISTANT AMY ADAMS

□ Row 22: k44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72), p4, k5, p4, k44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72)

□ Row 23: p44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72), T5L, p3, T5R, p44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72)

□ Row 24: k45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73), p4, k3, p4, k45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73)

□ Row 25: p45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73), T5L, p1, T5R, p45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73)

□ Row 26: k46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74), p4, k1, p4, k46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74)

□ Row 27: p46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74), k4, p1, k4, p46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74)

□ Row 28: k46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74), p4, k1, p4, k46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74)

Rows 1-28 set rev st st and cable panel

□ Keeping continuity correct and without casting on extra sts, cont until Back meas 31 (31, 33, 35, 36, 37) cm from markers, ending after a WS row

SHAPE ARMHOLES

□ Work 5 (5, 6, 6, 7, 7) rows dec one st at each end. 91 (103, 113, 125, 133, 143) sts

□ Cont without shaping until armholes meas 19 (21, 23, 24, 25, 26) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

□ Cast off 7 (10, 12, 14, 16, 19) sts in patt at beg of next two rows. 77 (83, 89, 97, 101, 105) sts

□ Cast off 8 (10, 13, 15, 17, 19) sts in patt at beg of next two rows. 61 (63, 63, 67, 67, 67) sts
Leave rem 61 (63, 63, 67, 67, 67) sts on holder

Front

** Using 3.25mm needles and thumb method cast on 117 (131, 145, 157, 171, 183) sts

□ Work seven rows in rib patt

□ Next row: p5 (5, 5, 1, 4, 3), p2tog, [p5 (5, 5, 6, 5, 5), p2tog] 15 (17, 19, 19, 23, 25) times, p5 (5, 5, 2, 4, 3). 101 (113, 125, 137, 147, 157) sts

Change to 4mm needles

□ Row 1: pm, p43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), T5R, p5, T5L, p43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), pm

□ Row 2: k43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), p4, k7, p4, k43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71)

□ Row 3: p42 (48, 54, 60, 65,

TWO
STYLES IN
8-30!



KEEP KNITTING ON P80

70), T5R, p3, MB, p3, T5L, p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)
 □ Row 4: k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), p4, k9, p4, k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)
 □ Row 5: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), T5R, p9, T5L, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)
 □ Row 6: k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), p4, k11, p4, k41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)
 □ Row 7: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), k4, p11, k4, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)
 □ Row 8: rep Row 6
 □ Row 9: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), k4, p5, MB, p5, k4, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)
 □ Row 10: rep Row 6
 □ Row 11: p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69), T5L, p9, T5R, p41 (47, 53, 59, 64, 69)
 □ Row 12: k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), p4, k9, p4, k42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)
 □ Row 13: p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70), T5L, p7, T5R, p42 (48, 54, 60, 65, 70)
 □ Row 14: k43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), p4, k7, p4, k43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71)
 □ Row 15: p43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71), T5L, p2, MB, p2, T5R, p43 (49, 55, 61, 66, 71)
 □ Row 16: k44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72), p4, k5, p4, k44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72)
 □ Row 17: p44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72), T5L, p3, T5R, p44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72)
 □ Row 18: k45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73), p4, k3, p4, k45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73)
 □ Row 19: p45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73), T5L, p1, T5R, p45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73)
 □ Row 20: k46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74), p4, k1, p4, k46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74)
 □ Row 21: p46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74), k4, p1, k4, p46 (52, 58, 64, 69, 74)
 □ Row 22: rep Row 20
 □ Row 23: rep Row 21
 □ Row 24: rep Row 20
 □ Row 25: p45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73), T5R, p1, T5L, p45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73)
 □ Row 26: k45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73), p4, k3, p4, k45 (51, 57, 63, 68, 73)
 □ Row 27: p44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72), T5R, p3, T5L, p44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72)
 □ Row 28: k44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72), p4, k5, p4, k44 (50, 56, 62, 67, 72)
 Rows 1-28 set rev st st and cable panel
 □ Keeping patt correct cont until Front meas 28 (28, 30, 32,

33, 34) cm from markers, ending after a WS row **

SHAPE ARMHOLES

□ Work 5 (5, 6, 6, 7, 7) rows dec one st at each end. 91 (103, 113, 125, 133, 143) sts
 □ Cont without shaping until armholes meas 17 (19, 20, 21, 22, 23) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE NECK

□ Next row: patt 28 (33, 39, 45, 48, 54), turn, leave rem 63 (70, 74, 80, 85, 89) sts on a holder
 □ Next row: cast off 9 (9, 8, 9, 9, 9) sts in patt, patt to end. 19 (24, 31, 36, 39, 45) sts
 □ Work 2 (2, 6, 6, 6, 6) rows dec one st at neck edge on each row. 17 (22, 25, 30, 33, 39) sts

SHAPE SHOULDER

□ Next row: cast off 7 (10, 12, 14, 16, 19) sts in patt, patt to last 2 (2, 0, 2, 0, 2) sts, [patt2tog] 1 (1, 0, 1, 0, 1) times. 9 (11, 13, 15, 17, 19) sts
 □ Next row: [patt2tog] 1 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0) times, patt to end. 8 (10, 13, 15, 17, 19) sts
 □ Cast off rem 8 (10, 13, 15, 17, 19) sts in patt
 □ With RS facing, working on rem 63 (70, 74, 80, 85, 89) sts, slip 35 (37, 35, 35, 37, 35) sts on to a holder, rejoin yarn to rem 28 (33, 39, 45, 48, 54) sts and patt to end
 □ Next row: patt to last two sts, patt2tog. 27 (32, 38, 44, 47, 53) sts
 □ Next row: cast off 9 (9, 8, 9, 9, 9) sts in patt, patt to end. 18 (23, 30, 35, 38, 44) sts
 □ Work 2 (2, 5, 6, 5, 6) rows dec one st at neck edge. 16 (21, 25, 29, 33, 38) sts

THIRD AND FIFTH SIZES ONLY

□ Work one more row in patt

ALL SIZES SHAPE SHOULDERS

□ Next row: cast off 7 (10, 12, 14, 16, 19) sts in patt, patt to last 2 (2, 0, 0, 0, 0) sts, [patt2tog] 1 (1, 0, 0, 0, 0) times. 8 (10, 13, 15, 17, 19) sts
 □ Next row: patt
 □ Cast off in patt

Sleeves (make two)

Using 4mm needles and thumb method cast on 63 (65, 67, 71, 73, 73) sts
 □ Beg with Row 1 of rib, cont until work meas 6cm, ending



after a WS row

Change to 3.25mm needles

□ Work 11 rows in rib

□ Next row: p3 (1, 2, 3, 4, 4), p2tog, [p9 (10, 10, 7, 7, 7), p2tog] 5 (5, 5, 7, 7, 7) times, p3 (2, 3, 3, 4, 4). 57 (59, 61, 63, 65, 65) sts

Change to 4mm needles

□ Row 1: p24 (25, 26, 27, 28, 28), k4, p1, k4, p24 (25, 26, 27, 28, 28)
 □ Row 2: k24 (25, 26, 27, 28, 28), p4, k1, p4, k24 (25, 26, 27, 28, 28)

□ Row 3: pfb, p22 (23, 24, 25, 26, 26), T5R, p1, T5L, p21 (22, 23, 24, 25, 25), pfb, p1. 59 (61, 63, 65, 67, 67) sts

□ Row 4: k24 (25, 26, 27, 28,

28), p4, k3, p4, k24 (25, 26, 27, 28, 28)

□ Row 5: p23 (24, 25, 26, 27, 27), T5R, p3, T5L, p23 (24, 25, 26, 27, 27)

□ Row 6: k23 (24, 25, 26, 27, 27), p4, k5, p4, k23 (24, 25, 26, 27, 27)

□ Row 7: [pfb] 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p22 (23, 24, 25, 26, 25), T5R, p5, T5L, p21 (22, 23, 24, 25, 24), [pfb] 0 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p1. 59 (61, 63, 65, 67, 69) sts

□ Row 8: k22 (23, 24, 25, 26, 27), p4, k7, p4, k22 (23, 24, 25, 26, 27)

KEEP KNITTING ON P94

Giveaways

Look at these fabulous prizes worth over £940!

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CashmeRED!

These delightful scarf knit kits from CashmeRED have come just in time for Christmas. They are great winter warmers, and would make a fab gift for a fellow knit-loving friend. Kits come in bright, and modest colours to suit every taste, and we have two up for grabs, worth £55 each! Call **01242 256 797**, or visit www.cashmered.net to see the full range.

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Two to win!

Pudding for your pudding

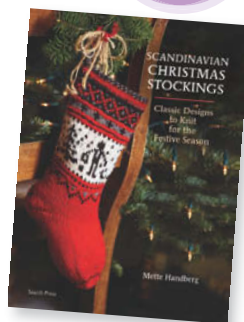
The CobWebbs Company are kindly giving away five of their adorable Christmas pudding hat knit kits. Kits make either one child size hat, or two baby hats. After all, Christmas isn't Christmas without festive hats! See www.cobwebknits.co.uk for more details.

☒ Pudding

Scandi Stockings!

Scandinavian Christmas Stockings by Mette N. Handberg (RRP £10.99, Search Press) features 22 Scandi-style stocking designs to take you straight to the top of Santa's 'nice' list, and we have six up for grabs! For more information, visit www.searchpress.com

☒ Scandi book



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Santa has stopped by the LK office, and has left a bundle of knitting goodies for one lucky reader. Our Christmas hamper is spilling over with yarn, needles, handmade buttons, tasty treats and more. See www.letsknit.co.uk for a full list of prizes.

☒ Hamper

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● Win ten balls of Wendy Pampas Mega Chunky courtesy of LoveKnitting.com.

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Rainbow stripes!

These bright and cheery merino wool scarves from Deck Chair Stripes are the perfect antidote for your winter-time blues. There are five to be won, visit www.deckchairstripes.com for more information. ☒ Scarf

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To enter our giveaways, just tick the box (or boxes) corresponding with the prize you want to win and send your entry to us, to arrive no later than 19/12/13. **Mark your envelope:** Let's Knit, December Giveaways, PO Box 443, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 8WG

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Helping hand



Adrienne Chandler shows you how to do some of the more tricky techniques in this issue

Once you can do the knit and purl stitches and basic shaping, you can follow most knitting patterns, but there might be a few things that crop up that you're just not sure on. In this tutorial, we break down a few of the more advanced techniques that

appear in some of our patterns, including the three-needle cast off, working Fair Isle in the round and short row shaping. There are also step-by-step shots for making an i-cord and we explain what to do when you are instructed to reverse the shaping.

THREE NEEDLE CAST OFF

This is used in Belle, our lace panel sweater on page 53. Designer Anniken often uses this cast off method to avoid sewing the shoulder seams, and it creates a strong, neat join.



1 The two sets of sts to be cast off will usually have been kept on a holder earlier in the pattern. Transfer these evenly on to two needles and hold parallel with RS together.



2 Insert a third needle of the same size into the front of the first st on the front needle and the front of the first st on the back needle. Wrap the yarn around the RH needle and pull through both sts.

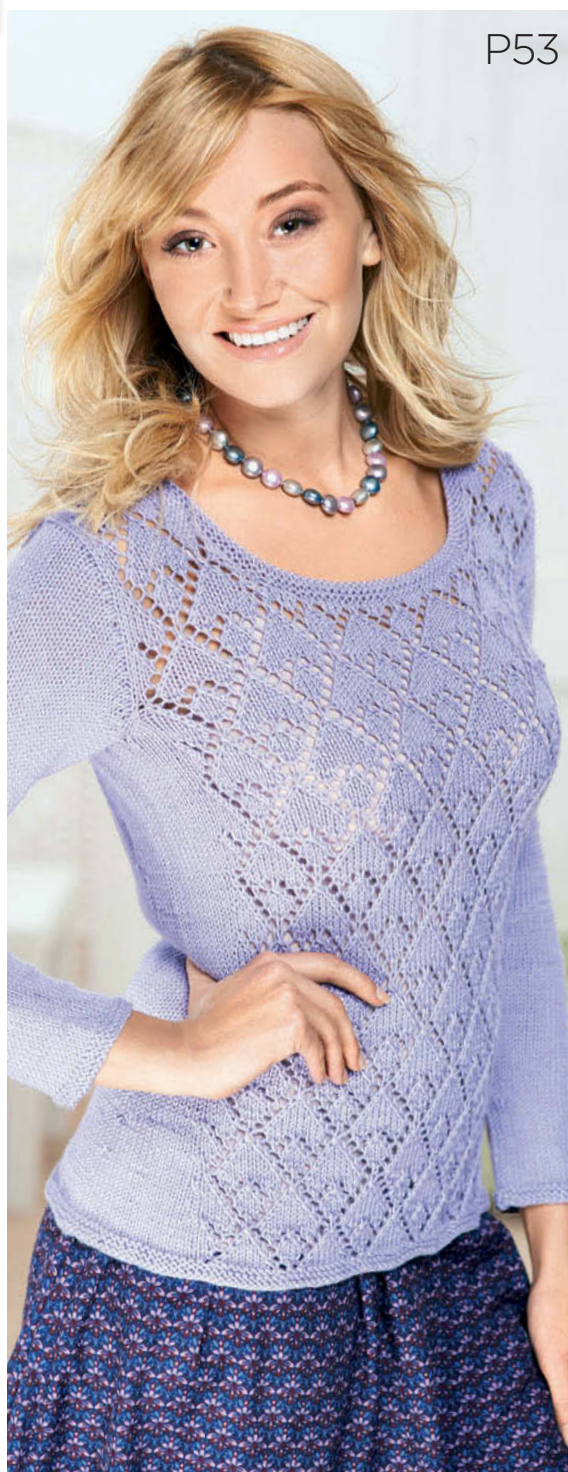


3 Rep Step Two in the next sts on front and back needles then pass the first worked st on the RH needle of the second and cast off. Rep to end and fasten off.



Finished join

P53



P33



Fair Isle in the round

Even if you're familiar with the concept of stranded knitting, when you introduce working in the round, like on Jane Burns's Elska socks (p33), it can get a bit fiddly. Remember to keep your stranding as even as possible to avoid puckering the work. Similarly, you don't want large loose loops either. This example is part of a sleeve but the same principle can be applied to the socks too.



WS of work



One great tip to help keep your stranding even is to turn your work inside out. Keep knitting the stitches in

the round as normal, but carry the working yarn around the outside of the work. This allows you to use the rest of the knitting to help tension your floats and prevents them bunching inside.

Making an i-cord

Our Zelda necklace on page 63 is made up of several i-cords. An i-cord is worked on two double-pointed needles.



1 Cast on the instructed number of sts and k to end, do not turn your work. Instead, slide the sts down to the opposite end of your dpn. Carrying the yarn across the back of the work, k to end.

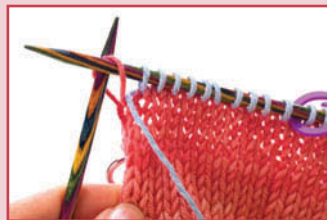


2 Keeping the RS facing throughout, continue like this until your i-cord measures the correct length.



WRAPPED STITCHES

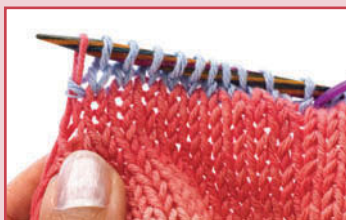
These are used in short row shaping and you'll come across them in Belle (p53) and Millie (Essential Winter Knits). The technique involves creating a wrap around a stitch, then turning the work. That means some of your stitches will have more rows worked on them than others – hence the name, short rows. This example is shown on the heel of a sock and we have used a different colour to highlight the first wrap.



On a RS row

1 k to the st to be wrapped, bring the yarn to the front between the needles, slip the next st on to the RH needle

2 return the yarn to the back of the work, and place the slipped st back on the LH needle. Now turn your work. The yarn is now at the front, ready to p the next row, and the st has been wrapped.



On a WS row: p to the last st, now wrap the st as before by taking the yarn to the opposite side of the work, slipping the st, returning the yarn to its original position, placing the st back on the LH needle, and turning the work.



On a k row: slip the st on to the RH needle and lift the wrap onto the LH needle, return the original st to the LH needle and k the st together with the wrap.

On a p row: insert the RH needle pwise through both the st and the wrap, p these two sts together.



When you encounter a wrapped stitch on following rows, you need to work the wrap and the stitch together.

Reversing shaping

In order to keep knitting pattern as concise as possible, you may be instructed to repeat a section of the pattern but reverse the shaping. This happens on the left neck shaping on our Lille sweater on page 22. The first thing to do is go back to the right neck shaping.

Right neck shaping

Cont on rem 38 (41, 44, 49) sts casting off on RS rows as follows:

- Next RS row: cast off three sts at neck edge, patt to end. 35 (38, 41, 46) sts
- Next RS row: cast off two sts at neck edge, patt to end.

33 (36, 39, 44) sts

- Cast off one st at neck edge at beg of foll three RS rows. 30 (33, 36, 41) sts
- Cont in patt without shaping until work meas 50 (52, 54, 56) sts ending after a WS row

You'll see that the shaping takes place at the beginning of each RS row. To reverse this, you need to cast off at the beginning of the WS rows. That's because casting off is most commonly worked at the beginning of the row to save rejoining the yarn each time. Once you have rejoined your yarn to the Left neck, your first row will be a WS row, so should be your first cast-off row. Now continue as instructed but replace RS with WS to keep your shaping at the neck edge.

On some patterns, the shaping will still be worked on RS rows, but in these cases, change k2tog to ssk and vice versa to ensure your decreases lean the correct way.



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Mins with...

Angela Tunstall,
Knitty Knitty Bang Bang

I felt there was a niche in the market for those knitters who want good value yarns that don't cost a lot of money.

Knittyknittybangbang is the place to find yarns under £2.99 and still know that you are buying quality combined with good service.

I think the economic climate has actually helped the knitting industry as people are rediscovering home hobbies.

The media hype on homemade things also reinforces the ideal that making your own things is worthwhile! Yarns have come a long way since the squeaky acrylics of the 70s and 80s. We offer 100% acrylics but also wool blends and fashion yarns. Just because it's a low price doesn't mean it's not a good yarn.



Nev is our grumpy mascot.

He is always keeping his flock in check and will often have an opinion on our site. He's here to remind us where we get our fantastic yarns from and to encourage the next generation of young knitters

to get their needles out. You can knit a Nev yourself – the pattern is free on our site – and we have kept it simple.

We wanted to create a fun atmosphere that reflects the variety we offer, with a down-to-earth character that appeals to a wide audience. We wanted every return visit to feel like visiting a close friend!

I'm currently making a DK jumper with an inverted heart on the front. I am ashamed to say I have only finished the back and half of the front, and I have been at this for six months!



Meet Nev for yourself and explore Angela's wide range of affordable yarns at www.knittyknittybangbang.co.uk

WHAT'S IN Stare?

Find out all the hot gossip from your favourite knitting and yarn stores around the UK

Magic Beanies

Beanies are fantastic projects for those of us with busy lives – when knitting a whole jumper seems like it could take years! Baby's Reversible Beanie (left) and Baby Beehive Hat (right) are two new designs by Knit 'n' Caboodle. The patterns are free with a ball of Opal's The Little Prince 4ply self-patterning sock yarn. Buy one 100g (425m) ball for £8.45 from www.knitncaboodle.co.uk or call 0116 259 7767.



Brit Knits!

After the roaring success of the gorgeous Artesano British wool, we are very excited about the release of the new Artesano British Wool Blue Faced Blend DK! Check out Charmaine Fletcher's hat and scarf pattern in your January issue, made using the luxurious new yarn (on sale 20th December). Available in 12 great machine-washable colours. One 50g (120m) ball of the yarn costs £5.35 from 01829 740903 www.laughinghens.com

Hooded Glory

One of Kyoko Nakayoshi's very first designs, this beautiful Cable Yoke Jacket is available for ages 1-10 years old. It is a seamless pattern knitted on circular needles in Jamieson's of Shetland Heather, and can be bought as a pattern for £4 or as a kit from £24-£55. Call 01595 693114 or go to www.jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk



Birds of a feather

West Yorkshire Spinners has added a new shade to its Bluefaced Leicester Country Birds collection, available in both Aran and DK weights. The printed red-and-grey shade, Bullfinch, is sure to create some striking projects! Best of all, the 100% British wool is spun and dyed in Yorkshire, making a strong, soft fabric that you can be proud of. One 100g (224m) ball has a RRP of £9.70. Go to www.wyspinners.com or call 01535 664500 for stockists.



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Sarah Neal, Let's Knit Editor

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Turn the tables

Keep these pages handy to guide you on your way

YARN WEIGHTS

YARN TYPE	STANDARD TENSION	STANDARD NEEDLE SIZE
Lace	30-33 sts-36-50 rows	2mm-3mm
4ply	28 sts-36 rows	3.25mm
DK	22 sts-28 rows	4mm
Aran	18 sts-24 rows	5mm
Chunky	14 sts-19 rows	6.5mm
Super Chunky	9 sts-12 rows	10mm

NEEDLE SIZING

UK (mm)	U.S.A	Old UK/Canada
2	0	14
2.25	1	13
2.75	2	12
3	-	11
3.25	3	10
3.5	4	-
3.75	5	9
4	6	8
4.5	7	7
5	8	6
5.5	9	5
6	10	4
6.5	10 1/2	3
7	-	2
7.5	-	1
8	11	0
9	13	00
10	15	000
12	17	-
15	-	-
16	19	-
19	35	-
20	36	-
25	50	-

"Using the correct size of needles for the yarn weight helps to produce a taut, neat fabric"



Step on to the scales

Just like tension, the weight of yarn can greatly affect the outcome of your work - which is especially disorientating when, as with needle sizing, yarn weights differ from country to country. Here is a rough guide to US yarn weights and their equivalents

US TERM	UK EQUIVALENT
Light fingering	3 ply
Fingering	4 ply
Sport light worsted /DK	Light DK
Worsted	DK
Aran	Between DK and Aran
Bulky	Chunky
Super bulky	Superchunky

ABBREVIATIONS

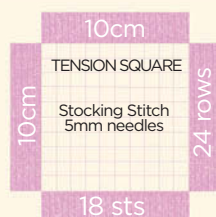
o	no stitches, times or rows	rm	remove marker
-	no stitches, times or rows for that size	RS	right side
alt	alternate	skpo	slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
approx	approximately	sk2po	slip next stitch purlwise, knit two together, pass slipped stitch over and off needle
beg	beginning	sl 2, k1, p2sso	slip next two stitches knitwise at the same time, knit one, pass both slipped stitches over
bet	between	sl 1	slip one stitch
C4F	(cable 4 front) slip two stitches on to cable needle, hold at front of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sl st	slip stitch
C4B	(cable 4 back) slip two stitches onto cable needle, hold at back of work, k2, k2 from cable needle	sm	slip marker
ch	chain stitch	ssk	one by one slip the next two stitches knitwise. Put your left needle through the front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
ch sp	chain space	st (s)	stitch (es)
circ	circular needles	st st	stocking stitch (k on RS row, p on WS row)
cm	centimetres	tbl	through the back loop (s)
cn	cable needle	tr	treble crochet
cont	continue (ing)	w & t	(on knit rows) take the yarn between the needles to the front of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn
dc	double crochet		
dc2tog	(insert hook into next stitch, yarn over hook, pull through loop) twice, yarn over hook, pull through all three loops on hook		
dec	decrease (ing)		
dpn	double pointed needle		
dtr	double treble crochet		
fol	following		
htr	half treble crochet		
inc	increase (ing)		
k	knit		
kfb	knit into the front and back of the next stitch		
k2tog	knit two stitches together		
kwise	knitwise		
lp	loop		
m1	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it		
m1p	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it		
meas	measure (s)		
mm	millimeters		
N1 (2, 3)	needle 1 (2, 3)		
p	purl		
pb	place bead		
pfb	purl into the front and back of next st		
pm	place marker		
p2tog	purl two stitches together		
prev	previous		
pssso	pass slipped stitch over and off needle		
p2sso	pass two slipped stitches over and off needle		
pwise	purlwise		
rem	remain (ing)		
rep	repeat (ing)		
rev st st	reverse stocking stitch (p on RS row, k on WS row)		
		ws	wrong side
		wyib	with yarn in back
		wyif	with yarn in front
		yb	yarn back
		yfwd	yarn forward (between knit stitches)
		yo	work yfwd/yon/yrn as appropriate
		yoh	yarn over hook
		yon	yarn over needle (between a purl and a knit stitch)
		yrn	yarn round needle (between purl stitches and between a knit and a purl stitch)
		y2rn	wrap yarn twice around needle
		*	repeat instructions following the asterisk as many times as instructed
		()[]	work instructions inside the brackets as many times as instructed

ESSENTIAL INFO

Everything you need to start knitting now!

Tension headache

The tension square is not the most exciting part of any project but it's one of the most important, particularly where garments are concerned. Ensuring you have the correct number of stitches and rows across your 10cm swatch is crucial to getting the right measurements and a good fit. Here's how to do it:



■ Using the yarn and needles recommended in the pattern, cast on the number of stitches given in the tension square plus six more. In this case you would need to cast on a total of 24 stitches (18+6). Making sure your stitches are not too tight or too loose, and working a knit stitch at each end of every row to prevent curling, work in

stocking stitch unless another stitch is specified until the piece measures 14cm. Cast off

■ Each knitted stitch is signified by one complete 'V' shape, so lay a ruler horizontally across your swatch, use marker pins to indicate 10cm and count the number of stitches, including half stitches. Do the same with the rows. Now compare this to the recommended tension. If there are too many stitches your tension is too tight – switch to a larger set of needles and try again. Similarly, if there are too few stitches your knitting is too loose – try with smaller size needles.



SUBSTITUTION

Substituting the specified yarn for a different one can be an excellent solution to the problem of yarn that's hard to find or out of your price range, but you need to know the facts and avoid certain pitfalls!

■ Make sure the yarn you choose has a tension that's as close as possible to the yarn suggested for



the pattern. It might be possible to correct slight variations by changing the needle size but too much difference will result in an odd looking fabric, so where possible substitute a DK weight yarn for another DK and so on.

■ Give consideration to the content of the yarn and how this might affect the finished project. For example, a wool yarn knits up into a fabric that's warm and light whereas cotton is cooler and much heavier. Information on the properties of individual yarns is available on the internet so do your research!

■ It seems like an obvious point but if your project will need to be washed often, ensure that the substitute yarn is water-safe (also known as 'superwash' or 'easycare'). If not it could shrink and felt beyond recognition!

Pattern Updates

Here at LK we try our hardest to make sure our patterns are free from errors, but sometimes they do slip through the net. Here you will find our latest pattern updates; we apologise for any inconvenience caused. If you have any queries about one of our patterns, please call **01206 508622** or email **support@letsknit.co.uk**. For further updates visit **www.letsknit.co.uk**



LK72, Christmas Special Rebecca, p9

On the second Decrease Rnd for the Yoke, size 8 is incorrect and should be as follows:

□ Size 8: * [k1, k2tog] four times, k2, k2tog, rep from * to end. 132 sts

For Size 18, please ignore the asterisk at the beginning of the rnd

Derek, p17

You need to work two pieces for the body and legs. These two halves are then stitched together.



Carmen, p43

On the Body, Row 9 is a misprint and should be omitted. The pattern should read:

□ Work 5 (9, 13, 13, 9, 9, 13, 13) rows in st st

□ Next row: p48 (50, 52, 55, 58, 61, 63, 66), pm...

LK73, November Julen, p17

On Row 72, the 25th st should be knitted in yarn B (white). Rows 89-90 have been omitted from the Chart and should both be knitted in yarn B (white).



Shiraz, p46

For the Cowl, the yarn should be held double throughout

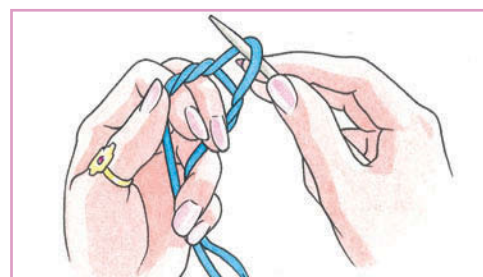
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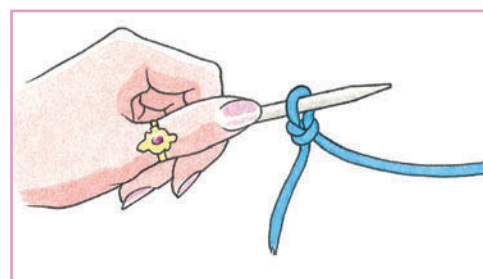
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Making a slip knot



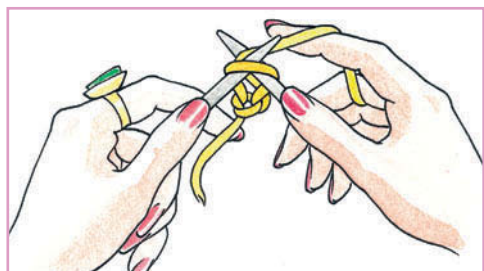
1 Holding the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, and pull the second loop under the first.



2 Remove the two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

Cast on

Casting on is the basis of all knitting. There are several different ways to do it, but the two-needle method shown below is often considered the simplest to master.



1 Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



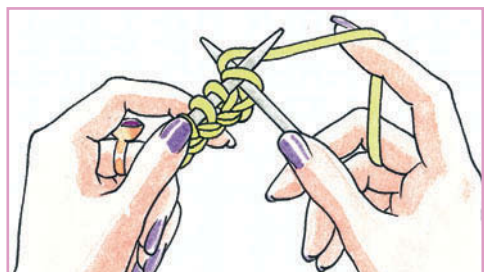
2 Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.



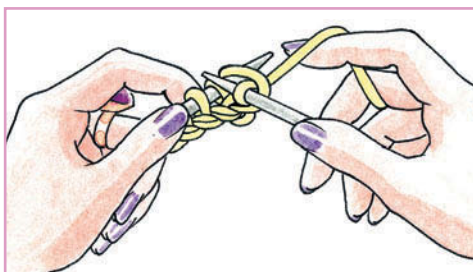
3 Repeat the above steps, knitting into the top stitch on the left needle and returning the new stitches from the right to the left needle until you have the required number of stitches.

Knit stitch

Similar to the cast on method (above), the knit stitch is the staple of all knitting (hence the name). Shown below is the English knitting style.



1 Once cast on, insert the tip of the right needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the left needle. The right hand needle should sit behind the left hand one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the tip of the right hand needle.

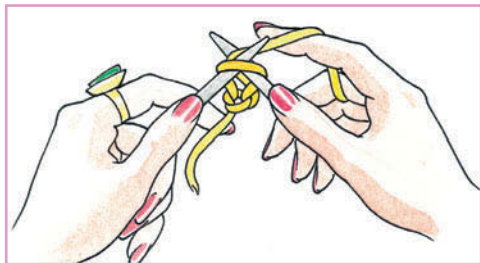


2 Using the right hand needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the right hand needle.



3 Slide the original stitch off the left hand needle. Repeat from step one. You are now knitting! The knit stitch can be combined with other stitches to create hundreds of different stitch patterns.

Cable cast on



1 Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



2 Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.

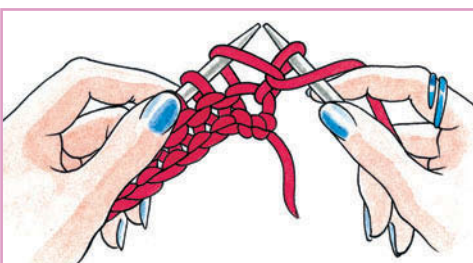


3 Insert the right needle between the two stitches on the left needle and wrap the yarn around the needle tip anticlockwise. Draw this loop through to make a stitch and slip it up and onto the left needle. Repeat this creating a new loop behind the last stitch and passing it left needle in front of the previous one.

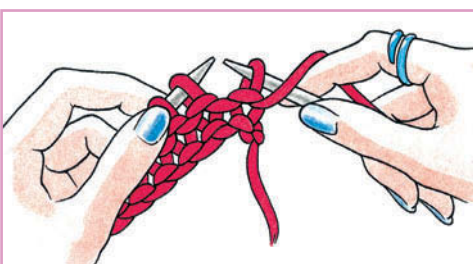
Purl stitch



1 With the ball end of the yarn at the front (toward you) insert the tip of the right hand needle into the front loop of the first stitch from the right to left and with the right hand needle in front of the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of the yarn anticlockwise around the right hand needle.



2 Draw the needle backwards and upwards, forming a new stitch on the right hand needle.



3 Once the new stitch has been formed on the right hand needle you can let the loop from the left needle slide off the end. Repeat until all the stitches have been purlled and you have complete the row.

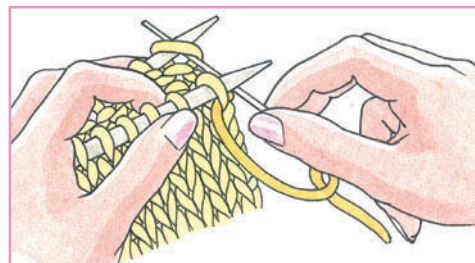
Graft the toe



Kitchener Stitch is the method used to achieve this. It is worked as follows:

SET UP: Before starting you need to prepare the stitches on the needle. Hold the two needles with the remaining stitches parallel. The loose end of yarn should be coming from the back needle and lying to the right of the work.

1 Thread yarn end onto a tapestry needle and insert it purlwise into the first stitch on the needle closest to you. Pull the yarn through but leave the stitch on the needle.



2 Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the back needle and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.



3 Having set up as shown in steps 1 and 2, repeat steps 3 and 4 until all stitches have been grafted. Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the front needle and slide the stitch off. Before you pull the yarn through this stitch insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the front needle purlwise and pull the yarn through, this time leaving the stitch on the needle.



4 Insert the tapestry needle purlwise into the first stitch on the back needle and slide it off. Before pulling the yarn through this stitch, insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the back needle knitwise and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.

p22



Helping hand

If you need a refresher on basic knitting techniques, visit our website www.letsknit.co.uk. Turn to p82 for techniques to help with the following patterns:

Zelda, p63: i-cords
Elska, p33: Fair Isle in the round
Belle, p53: three-needle cast off and wrap and turn
Lille, p22: reversing shapings

p33



Final Stages

Finish your project like a pro

On the blocks

Blocking is the process of stretching and shaping your finished items to create the correct dimensions from the pattern. It is also really useful for ensuring that pieces to be joined fit well together. There are a few different ways to achieve this, so check the information on the yarn ball band and pick the most suitable option.

Wet blocking

Dampen the pieces so that they are wet through and gently push out excess water. Spread the sections out on a towel to air dry. Use a tape measure to ensure each part is the correct dimensions to that of the pattern and pin into the required shape.

For a more gentle option, try pinning it in place and lightly spritzing with a water spray. This is ideal

for really delicate materials like cashmere which can be damaged by too much water.

Steam iron blocking

Place a dampened cloth on top of the separate sections of your knitting. Work gently over this with a very hot iron, be careful not to let the iron come into direct contact with the knitting as it can damage the work. Continue to press the work until the cloth is dry and the knitted fibres have been loosened by the steam. Then, pin the pieces to the desired shape and measurements and leave to set.



At a loose end?

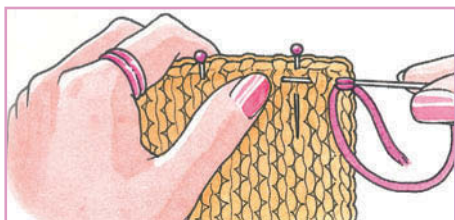
Follow these steps for sewing in any loose ends:
1 Thread the yarn onto a tapestry needle and work with the WS of the knit facing upwards.

2 Insert the needle under the loop of each stitch, and draw it through. Work it up and down the loops of the stitches for 8cm.

3 Cut the yarn close to the fabric.

4 If you are weaving at a colour change, be sure to work the loose end into the corresponding colour to prevent it from being visible at the front of the work.

Back stitch

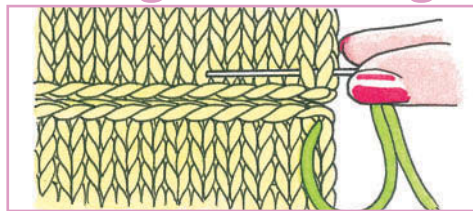


1 Pin the pieces to be joined, with the right sides together. Thread the loose end of yarn onto a tapestry needle. Start by stitching the two outer edges together, then bring the needle through the two pieces 1cm from back to front ahead of the previous stitch.

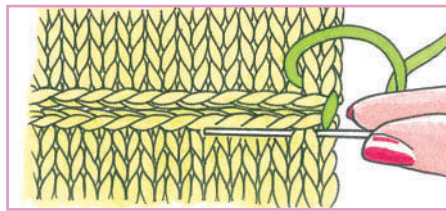


2 Push the needle back through at the position where the yarn emerged from the previous stitch. Return it to the front of the work, approx 1cm ahead of the stitch just made. Repeat this until the whole join is complete, working in a straight line.

Joining cast off edges

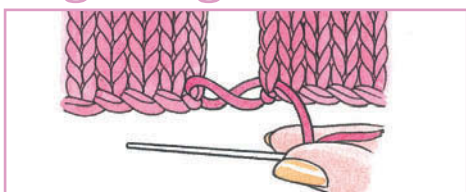


1 Lay the two pieces to be joined right side up and with the cast off edges touching. Thread a tapestry needle with the loose yarn and push this through the centre of the first stitch, and then in and out through the centres of two stitches on the opposite side.

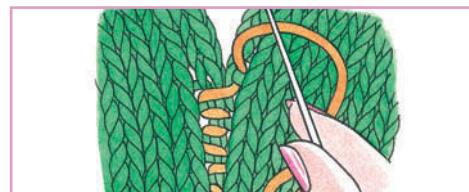


2 Take the needle over to the first side and insert where it previously exited, bringing it out through the centre of the next stitch. Repeat this process alternating sides and stitching single stitches until the pieces are joined.

Beginning a seam



1 With the pieces placed next to each other with right side upwards, thread the yarn tail through the fabric after the first stitch, moving the needle from front to back. Then, take the needle behind the first stitch on the second piece from the back of the work to the front. The yarn will form a figure 8. Tug gently to secure.



1 With the two pieces to be joined lying next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with the tapestry needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side.

2 Repeat this moving from one piece to the next and pulling the yarn to tighten the join.

Mattress stitch

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BREAKFAST SET**

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- Row 9: [pfb] O (0, 1, 1, 1, 0) times, p21 (22, 22, 23, 24, 26), T5R, p3, MB, p3, T5L, p20 (21, 21, 22, 23, 25), [pfb] O (0, 1, 1, 1, 0) times, p1. 59 (61, 65, 67, 69, 69) sts
- Row 10: k21 (22, 24, 25, 26, 26), p4, k9, p4, k21 (22, 24, 25, 26, 26)
- Row 11: [pfb] O (1, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p20 (20, 23, 24, 25, 24), T5R, p9, T5L, p19 (19, 22, 23, 24, 23), [pfb] O (1, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p1. 59 (63, 65, 67, 69, 71) sts
- Row 12: k20 (22, 23, 24, 25, 26), p4, k11, p4, k20 (22, 23, 24, 25, 26)
- Row 13: [pfb] 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 0) times, p19 (22, 23, 24, 25, 26), k4, p11, k4, p18 (21, 22, 23, 24, 25) [pfb] 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 0) times, p1. 61 (63, 65, 67, 69, 71) sts
- Row 14: k21 (22, 23, 24, 25, 26), p4, k11, p4, k21 (22, 23, 24, 25, 26)
- Row 15: [pfb] O (0, 1, 1, 1, 1) times, p21 (22, 22, 23, 24, 25), k4, p5, MB, p5, k4, p20 (21, 21, 22, 23, 24), [pfb] O (0, 1, 1, 1, 1) times, p1. 61 (63, 67, 69, 71, 73) sts
- Row 16: k21 (22, 24, 25, 26, 27), p4, k11, p4, k21 (22, 24, 25, 26, 27)
- Row 17: p21 (22, 24, 25, 26, 27), T5L, p9, T5R, p21 (22, 24, 25, 26, 27)
- Row 18: k22 (23, 25, 26, 27, 28), p4, k9, p4, k22 (23, 25, 26,

27, 28)

- Row 19: [pfb] O (1, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p22 (22, 25, 26, 27, 27), T5L, p7, T5R, p21 (21, 24, 25, 26, 26), [pfb] O (1, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p1. 61 (65, 67, 69, 71, 75) sts
- Row 20: k23 (25, 26, 27, 28, 30), p4, k7, p4, k23 (25, 26, 27, 28, 30)
- Row 21: [pfb] O (0, 1, 1, 1, 0) times, p23 (25, 25, 26, 27, 30), T5L, p2, MB, p2, T5R, p22 (24, 24, 25, 26, 29), [pfb] O (0, 1, 1, 1, 0) times, p1. 61 (65, 69, 71, 73, 75) sts
- Row 22: k24 (26, 28, 29, 30, 31), p4, k5, p4, k24 (26, 28, 29, 30, 31)
- Row 23: [pfb] 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p23 (26, 28, 29, 30, 30), T5L, p3, T5R, p22 (25, 27, 28, 29, 29), [pfb] 1 (0, 0, 0, 0, 1) times, p1. 63 (65, 69, 71, 73, 77) sts
- Row 24: k26 (27, 29, 30, 31, 33), p4, k3, p4, k26 (27, 29, 30, 31, 33)
- Row 25: p26 (27, 29, 30, 31, 33), T5L, p1, T5R, p26 (27, 29, 30, 31, 33)
- Row 26: k27 (28, 30, 31, 32, 34), p4, k1, p4, k27 (28, 30, 31, 32, 34)
- Row 27: [pfb] O (1, 1, 1, 1, 0) times, p27 (27, 29, 30, 31, 34), k4, p1, k4, p26 (26, 28, 29, 30, 33), [pfb] O (1, 1, 1, 1, 0) times, p1. 63 (67, 71, 73, 75, 77) sts
- Row 28: k27 (29, 31, 32, 33, 34), p4, k1, p4, k27 (29, 31, 32, 33, 34)
- Rows 1-28 set rev st st, cable panel and inc
- Cont in rev st st and cable panel throughout inc one st at each end of 5th (7th, 5th, 5th, 5th, 1st) and every foll 10th (10th, 6th, 6th, 6th, 6th) row until there are 77 (83, 81, 89, 99, 105) sts

FIRST, THIRD, FOURTH AND FIFTH SIZES ONLY

- Inc one st at each end of every foll 12th (-, 8th, 8th, 8th, -) row to 79 (-, 93, 97, 101, -) sts

ALL SIZES

- Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 52 (52, 53, 54, 54) cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SLEEVE TOP

- Work 5 (5, 6, 6, 7, 7) rows dec one st at each end of every row. 69 (73, 81, 85, 87, 91) sts
- Work 1 (1, 0, 0, 1, 1) more rows without shaping
- Cast off four sts in patt at beg of next 14 (10, 12, 8, 8, 4)

- rows. 13 (33, 33, 53, 55, 75) sts
- Cast off five sts in patt at beg of next O (4, 4, 8, 8, 12) rows. 13 (13, 13, 13, 15, 15) sts
- Cast off rem in patt

Neckband

Join right shoulder seam.

- Using 3.25mm needles and with RS facing, pick up and k 14 (14, 16, 16, 16, 16) sts evenly along left side of neck, k across 35 (37, 35, 35, 37, 35) sts left on holder at front of neck, pick up and k 14 (14, 16, 16, 16, 16) sts evenly along right side of neck and k across 61 (63, 63, 67, 67, 67) sts left on holder at back of neck. 124 (128, 130, 134, 136, 134) sts
- Rows 1-2: k
- Cast off

Back left side edging

- Using 3.25mm needles and with RS facing, starting at four cast-on sts pick up and k 28 sts evenly along side edge to cast-on edge. 28 sts
- Row 1: * p1, k1, rep from * to end
- This row sets rib
- Work four more rows in rib
- Cast off in rib

Back right side edging

- Using 3.25mm needles and with RS facing, starting at cast-on edge pick up and k 28 sts evenly along side edge to marker. 28 sts
- Row 1: * k1, p1, rep from * to end
- This row sets rib
- Work four rows more in rib
- Cast off in rib

To make up

Join left shoulder and neckband seams. Sew Back side edgings evenly in position to cast-on edge. Fold Sleeves in half lengthways, then placing folds to shoulder seams, sew in position. Sew top of rib to seam at top of back side edgings. Join side seams. Join Sleeve seams reversing sewing for 6cm, for turn back on sleeves. Block garment

SHORT SWEATER Back

- Work as for Front of Droptail Sweater from ** to **

SHAPE ARMHOLES

- Work 5 (5, 6, 6, 7, 7) rows dec one st at each end of every row. 91 (103, 113, 125, 133, 143) sts
- Cont without shaping until armholes meas 19 (21, 23, 24, 25, 26)cm, ending after a WS row

SHAPE SHOULDERS

- Cast off 7 (10, 12, 14, 16, 19) sts in patt at beg of next two rows. 77 (83, 89, 97, 101, 105) sts
- Cast off 8 (10, 13, 15, 17, 19) sts in patt at beg of next two rows. 61 (63, 63, 67, 67, 67) sts
- Leave rem 61 (63, 63, 67, 67, 67) sts on a stitch holder

Front

- Work as for Front of Droptail Sweater

Sleeves (make two)

- Work as for Sleeves of Droptail Sweater

Neckband

- Work as for Neckband of Droptail Sweater

To make up

Join left shoulder and neckband seams. Fold sleeves in half, then placing folds to shoulder seams, sew in position. Join sleeve seams reversing sewing for 6cm for turn back on sleeves. Join side seams. Block garment **LK**

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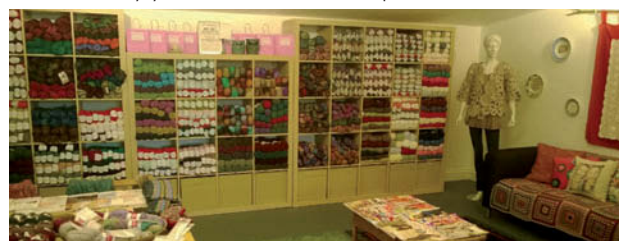
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"Be bold and go for it!"

Debbie Tomkies talks yarn, inspiration and shares her hand-dyeing know-how!

Once upon a time, Debbie Tomkies – queen of colour – worked as an accountant. In her own words, "weird, huh?". But, to our delight, she now spends her days writing books, spinning and dyeing fibres, and teaching others her expert skills. With a colossal career change and two successfully published books under her belt, Debbie is the perfect person to take industry (and dyeing) advice from – so without further ado, here's a sneak peak into the wonderful world of Debbie Tomkies...



I learned to knit when I was about 7. My Gran was an awesome knitter but she lived in Scotland and we only saw her twice a year so I had to make the most of her visits and learn fast! She was also deaf so knitting was a special language we could share.

I would describe my yarn stash as eclectic. It reflects my taste in yarns both past and present, and I don't rule out any yarn as having potential for a future design. You won't be surprised to hear that colour and texture feature strongly! I take inspiration from many sources. My yarn and fibre clubs have included colourways from space nebulae, flowers, favourite paintings,

landscapes, collages of collected images, album covers, rusty piers and even food!

When I wrote my book, *Hand Dyed Yarn Craft Projects*, I'd been dyeing for a number of years and had struggled to find many good dye instruction books in the UK. When I was taken ill I had a long time off work and I decided that if I hadn't found a suitable book, maybe others would like one too. GMC agreed, and

"I was sitting in my hospital bed surrounded by draft pages until the wee small hours"

so my book was published. It did give the nurses a laugh, though, as I was sitting in my hospital bed surrounded by draft pages until the wee small hours – I was having surgery the following morning and the final proofs had to have been checked by then! It was certainly a good distraction.

I loved my job in accountancy (I know, weird, huh?) but being your own boss, responsible for your successes (and non-successes!) is so satisfying. It's scary at times knowing you

stand or fall by your own decisions; it's extremely hard work, too. And I couldn't do it without the amazing support I get from family and friends and, of course, customers, but I wouldn't swap it for the world.

My tips for anyone wanting to try hand-dyeing yarn: be bold and go for it!

It isn't difficult or expensive to get started, and you don't need to be artistic to get great results. Start with a simple kit so you've got good instructions. When it comes to colours I often suggest a favourite outfit from your wardrobe. Working within a colour-family (eg: purples through blues) or a seasonal theme are also good choices that almost always produce lovely results. The three primary colours are also a popular choice as they give a myriad of colour options. Pairing up with a friend and having a dyeing afternoon is really fun! **Read Debbie's full interview at www.letsknit.co.uk**

For more information on Debbie and her products, call 0161 718 3818 or visit www.dtcrafts.co.uk



TOP Five

Debbie's top choice of yarns in her stash

Some early Colinette

yarn. I knitted a sweater in it then gave the sweater away. I keep hoping I'll find some more as I'd like one for myself!

My alpaca/wool/nylon sock yarn

is the smoothest, gentlest yarn on your feet but surprisingly hard-wearing due to the alpaca content. It dyes beautifully, too.

Jamieson's of Shetland Spindrift

has a super colour range with lots of brights, as well as neutrals and marls so it lends itself to all kinds of designs and styles, modern and classic.

Artesano Aran is so soft and bouncy but not too heavy.

It would be a difficult choice between hand-dyers **Natalie Fergie** (aka The Yarn Yard), **Ellie** at Solstice Yarns and **Vikki** at Eden Cottage. I'm not a frequent lace knitter so I like to treat myself when it comes to lace yarns.

Could I sneak in one of each?

Debbie's Top Tip

Pass it on. If you can't use it, there'll be a group or organisation who can. Beginner knitters, schools, charities are often desperate for yarn. (And, dare I say it, it will make more room for new yarn!).

Coming next issue

HAZEL TINDALL SHARES HER HISTORY IN SHETLAND, HER LOVE FOR FAIR ISLE, AND HER SPEEDY KNITTING TIPS. ON SALE 20 DECEMBER



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